1842

THE WONDERS OF MENTAL MAGNETISM.

This new science, commonly called **Animal Magnetism,**
will be practically illustrated by

W. H. HALSE, ESQ.

And three Young Ladies, on four successive Evenings, at the

CITY HALL, 110, CHANCERY LANE

AND

HALL OF SCIENCE, CITY ROAD, FINSBURY,

Seven doors from Featherstone Street, south; at Eight o'clock in the Evening. Admission ~~Two Shillings and Sixpence.~~ 1/-

Tuesday Evening, December 14..Hall of Science,
Wednesday do. ditto 15..City Hall,
Thursday do. ditto 16..Hall of Science,
Friday do. ditto 17..City Hall.

N.B. As Mr. Halse finds that Lecturing and Discussion disturb his magnetizing powers, he will reserve himself for the illustrative parts, and call in the talented aid of his relative, Mr. Carlile, for the description and defence. Two triers or objectors will be allowed on the Platform, and a chairman appointed.

The following important and most interesting facts are established in this science.

1st.—That the primary physical sensations of the human being may be suspended, by the magnetizing power of the will of another, as thoroughly as under their state of death, *verified by the test of the monster Electrical Battery, at the Adelaide Gallery, on one of the ladies;* and by the electrical eel.

2nd.—That under the complete paralysis, prostration, or temporary death of the primary physical sensations, they may be recalled to life and health at the will and pleasure of the operating magnetizer.

3rd.—That while the primary sensations are in sleep, as deep as death, a new class of internal, secondary or mental sensations are called into life, exhibiting the most perfect memory of past life and action, and a purer or brighter intellectual power than in common life, presenting a sight without the eye, and a hearing without the ear; a taste without the palate, and a smell without the nostrils' power! and a touch without contact. A magnetic fluid performing all the intermediate offices.

Mr. Halse is open for engagement to illustrate before any Scientific Institutions or private parties, and to receive patients in his profession of Medical Galvanism, from Eleven to Four daily, at the City Hall, 110, Chancery Lane; leaving town on the 18th instant, over the holidays.

Alfred Carlile, Printer, Water-lane, Fleet-st.

strative of the truth of Mesmerism.

LECTURE II.

Spontaneous Catalepsy---Artificial Catalepsy induced in waking state---Catalepsy in the Mesmeric state---Increas

MESMERISM!

On Wednesday Evening, July 19th, 1843,

Mr. J. N. BAILEY

WILL DELIVER THE FIRST OF A COURSE OF

THREE LECTURES

ON

MESMERISM,

In the Hall of the National Association,

242, *HIGH HOLBORN.*

The Second Lecture will be on Wednesday, July 26th, and the Third on Wednesday, August 2nd.

SYLLABUS OF THE COURSE.

LECTURE I.

Introductory remarks---Brief sketch of the History of Mesmerism---Modes of Mesmerising---Modes of awakening Somnambulists---Objections to Mesmerism---Experiments demonstrative of the truth of Mesmerism.

LECTURE II.

Spontaneous Catalepsy---Artificial Catalepsy induced in the waking state---Catalepsy in the Mesmeric state---Increase of Physical strength by Mesmeric Agency---Curative powers of Mesmerism---Demonstrations and Experiments.

LECTURE III,

Division of the Mesmeric state into Stages---Phreno-Mesmerism---Hypothesis of suggestive Dreaming---Mesmeric Thought-reading---Sympathy of taste and feeling---Clairvoyance---Illustrations and Experiments.

To commence at half-past Eight o'clock precisely.

ADMISSION to the Body of the Hall, *2d.*; to the Gallery, *3d.*

MASON, PRINTER, CLERKENWELL GREEN.

MESMERISM
EXTRAORDINARY !

TWO LECTURES

WILL BE DELIVERED BY MR.

Jabez Inwards,

ON TUESDAY 18th, & THURSDAY 20th Inst.,

AT THE

Mechanics' Institution,

SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HOLBORN,

The Rev. JABEZ BURNS, has Engaged to Preside;

Several Experiments will be Performed During the Evening

The Seat of Disease Ascertained,

FROM WHICH ANY PARTY MAY BE SUFFERING,

And any Book in the English Language Read, although the Eyes shall be Perfectly Closed.

Any Phrenological Organ will be called into Exercise without Contact.

Admission SIXPENCE Each.—Boxes and Reserved Seats,

ONE SHILLING,

Which may be had of Starie, 166, High Holborn; Hill, 10, Long Acre; and 16, Great Turnstile, Lincoln's Inn Fields; Chennell's Coffee House, Waterloo-rd.; Hart's Hotel, 159, Aldersgate-st.; 26, Warner-st., Dover-rd.; Hinckly's Coffee House, Blackman-st., Boro'; Stevens, 80, Theobald's-rd.; Watson, 167, Fleet-st.; Purvis, Baker, Blackfriars-rd.; and at the Library of the Institution.

*** LECTURE TO COMMENCE AT SEVEN O'CLOCK.

[*J. H. Starie, Printer*, 166, *High Holborn.*

July 1843.

Mesmerism & Mesmero-phrenology.

—oo—

AN EXHIBITION

OF

MESMERIC PHENOMENA,

Will take place every **WEDNESDAY EVENING,**

At Mr. J. N. BAILEY'S Apartments, 63, *Hatton Garden,*

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ADMISSION, ONE SHILLING.

THE KENTISH INDEPENDENT,

Of Saturday next, February 10th, will contain:

A Defence of MESMERISM!

FROM THE ATTACKS OF THE

Greenwich Doctors

AND

LOCAL JOURNALS.

To be had of the Agents, viz: Deptford, Mr. Porritt, High-street; Greenwich, Mr. Beaver, Nelson-street; Miss Porritt, Royal-hill, and Miss Naylor 4, South-street.

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ANIMAL MAGNETISM
OR
MESMERISM

A
LECTURE

On the above Subject will be delivered by

Mr. JABEZ INWARDS,

AT THE

SUN INN, CHATHAM,

ON

Saturday Evening

March 4th, 1843, to commence at Eight o'Clock.

THE OBJECT OF THE ABOVE LECTURE IS,

1st. To disprove the assertion that Mesmerism favours Infidelity and Materialism; and to demonstrate that it confirms the Identity and Immortality of the Soul.

2nd. To demonstrate the Truth of Phrenology by Phreno-Magnetism.

3rd. The immense benefit to be derived by Society at large (judiciously applied), in ascertaining, prescribing for, and curing Disease.

Several Persons will be subjected to the influence of Animal Magnetism, and some highly interesting Experiments performed in illustration of the Lecture.

TICKETS, 1*s.* each, and the reserved Seats 1*s.* 6*d.*, to be had of WHEELER & SON, Strood; Mr. DREWET, Confectioner, Rochester; Mr. KIMMINS, Baker, Mr. STEWART, Chemist, Mr. DAVIS, Librarian, Mechanics' Institution, Mr. VENNELL, Draper, and at Mr. BURRILL's Library, Chatham.

☞ **Members of the Mechanics' Institute, Half-price.**

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ANIMAL MAGNETISM,

VINDICATED AND PROVED.

MR. C. HOLMES,

Member of the Christian Phrenological Society of London,

WILL GIVE ONE MORE

LECTURE,

ON

MESMERISM;

IN THE HALL OF THE INSTITUTE,

CHELMSFORD,

ON

FRIDAY NEXT, JULY 14.

The Phenomena which Mr HOLMES will produce on a young man, will be of a very extraordinary character, and which will shew that Animal Magnetism is a reality, and capable of being applied to great good in various ways. Mr. HOLMES will exhibit the Phenomena of Clairvoyance, and the excitation of the Cerebral organs; and will answer the objections of the opponents of the science, and refute the charge of collusion.

ADMISSION:—To the body of the Hall, 1s.;—(Reserved Seats, 1s. 6d.;)—Gallery, 6d.

TO COMMENCE AT EIGHT O'CLOCK.

TICKETS to be had of Mr. A. COPLAND, and Messrs. MEGGY & CHALK, Chelmsford.

*** *Some Gentlemen of the Town have promised their assistance to Mr.* ***HOLMES****, to endeavour to operate upon Individuals from amongst the audience, after the Lecture.*

A. COPLAND, PRINTER, HIGH STREET, CHELMSFORD.

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MASON, PRINTER, CLERKENWELL GREEN.

THE MESMERIST'S GAZETTE.

July. 43.

HOW TO MESMERISE

The wonderful phenomena of Animal Magnetism can be produced by various means. For instance, a correspondent of Mr. Spencer Hall's 'Phreno-magnet,' affirms that he has induced the Mesmeric sleep, or coma as it is technically termed.—

1. By looking into the eye and pressing the thumbs.
2. By looking into the eye and making passes over the head.
3. By looking into the eye alone.
4. By pressing the thumbs alone.

The following, however, is the mode generally practised. The individual to be mesmerised is seated in a comfortable posture in an arm chair, his hands reclining on the arms of the chair, his knees gently bent forward, and his feet resting upon a foot-stool or cushion. The mesmerist then seats himself immediately fronting his patient, gazing intently on his countenance, and retaining a slight hold of the hands. So soon as the eyes of the patient begin to dilate, the customary *passes* are performed, and the mesmeric sleep is the result. The *passes* are thus made;—the mesmerist strokes his patient repeatedly, but yet steadily as possible, with the palms of his hands and fingers in one direction *downwards*, from extremity to extremity; i. e., from the head to the feet. But especial care must be observed in making the returning, or *upward* stroke, so as not to disturb the effects of the previous stroke downward. For this purpose the palms must be extended outward, and the hands gently, yet expeditiously, thrown round in a semicircle.

To the above instructions 'how to mesmerise,' we venture to add the subjoined from some very cleverly translated 'Extracts from Teste's "*Manuel Practique de Magnetisme Animal*,"' now in course of publication in the 'Mesmerist,' a periodical edited by Mr. Bayley, and devoted, as its title indicates, to Mesmerism.

'Deleuze, in his instructions, lays down the following theorems:—

'1st. Man has the faculty of exercising upon his fellows a salutary influence in directing towards them, by his will, the principle which animates and sustains life:

'2nd. To this faculty is given the name of Magnetism; it is an extension of the power which all living beings possess of acting upon such of their own organs as are in subjection to their will.

'3rd. We only perceive this faculty or power by its results, and only make use of it in so far as we will to do so.

'4th. Then the first condition required in magnetising is to will.

'As no profession of faith is involved in the system of Magnetism, the spiritualists as well as the materialists may, so far as they understand magnetic phenomena, attribute their origination either to a spiritual or materrial cause. It remains no less certain that the principles deduced from these phenomena are in fact the rigorous expression of the truth. The *will* is not a chimerical being, but a real power; and this power, to which all the other moral and intellectual faculties are subordinate, not only rules the organization of the individual who possesses it, but can also re-act upon the beings who surround him. The will is then nearly everything for me in Magnetism: and the act of the Magnetiser is reduced, so to speak, to a knowledge how to imprint his own will to the purpose.

'But to have a just idea of Magnetism, it is of consequence to comprehend thoroughly the sense of this proposition, which, at first view, presents something so abstract that it prevents some people from studying the facts which it involves. Now all these facts combine to prove that there exists in man, and most probably in all organized beings, a subtle agent, the cause or the result of life, (it is unknown which), transmissible from one individual to another, and which establishes, by this transmission, a sort of intimate association between the living correspondents who experience the effects of it. This is a summary of the whole theory of the *fluid* which is made to play so important a part by Magnetisers. This theory, like all others of the same species, is only something like a rational hypothesis, which may serve to explain phenomena impossible to be accounted for otherwise. It is not our desire to exaggerate the value of this hypothesis; but for want of data more certain, we ask permission of our readers to use it as the base of the precepts we are about to dictate; precepts which the experience of facts alone suffices to render legitimate.'

'Thus we find that the magnetic fluid is put in motion by the will; but, as our organs serve for its conductors, gestures become, in consequence, indispensable auxiliaries to all mental action. Hence, if these gestures, these manual processes, be really gifted with an intrinsic value, they ought to be studied by all who would practise Magnetism.'

'*Ordinary Method according to Deleuze.*—When you have agreed and are in a disposition to treat the subject gravely, remove from the patient all persons who may clog your operations, only retain the necessary witnesses (one if possible) and request them not to occupy themselves with the processes you employ, nor with the effects that may be produced, but to unite their benevolent intentions with yours. Make arrangements to be neither too warm nor too cold; and in order that nothing may cramp the freedom of your movements, take precautions against interruption during the sitting.'

'Make your patient sit in the most commodious manner possible; place him opposite to you upon a seat a little more elevated than your own, and in such a position that his knees may be between yours, and your feet at the side of his. Request him to abandon himself; to think of nothing particularly, not to distract himself by considering the effects he may experience; endeavour to remove all fear, to excite hope, and persuade him not to be discouraged or uneasy if the action of Magnetism should occasion him momentary pain.'

When you feel collected, take hold of his thumbs in such a way as that the interior of your thumb may touch the interior of his, and fix your eyes upon him. You should remain in this position from two to five minutes, or until you feel an equal warmth established between his thumbs and yours; this done, withdraw your hands in a direction one to the right, the other to the left, turning them so that the interior surface be outwards, then raise them to the patient's head; then put them on his shoulders, and keep them there about a minute, then carry them along his arms to the extremity of his fingers with a gentle touch. You should repeat this pass five or six times, turning your hands, and removing them a little from the body when you raise them. You may now place your hands upon the patient's head, hold them there a moment, and then bring them down, passing in front of the face at the distance of one or two inches to the pit of the stomach; there you remain about two minutes, placing the thumbs on the pit of the stomach, the fingers stretched out on each side. Then you descend; it is necessary then to operate in quietness, if possible without company, in places which inspire neither emotion nor constraint, and approach the patient so as to place your hands behind his shoulders, descending slowly along the spine, and thence to the haunches, and along the thighs to the knees, or to the feet. After the first passes, you may dispense with placing your hand upon the head, and make the ensuing on the arms, commencing at the shoulders; and on the body, commencing at the stomach.

This method is in general suited for first trials. But I think I may remark, that the contact of the hands with the head and the chest is not indispensible, but rather a subject of distraction which adds nothing to the efficacy of the process. Also the passes along the back have no marked effect, and I do not practise them. In fine, any kind of direct touch appears to me superfluous, as well as unpleasant, and leads to no improved practice.

Most ordinarily I stand before the person I wish to magnetise, and even at a short distance; after the few minutes collection of the faculties which ought to precede every experiment, I raise my hands as high as the forehead, and I direct my passes from above to below before the face, the baeast, and the abdomen, only each time I raise my hand, I take care to allow my fingers to fall in such a manner as that their backs may be turned to the patient in ascending, and their inner surface during the passes. This method is simple, too simple, perhaps; and I only recommend it to be employed on patients accustomed to magnetising, and easily susceptible of the operator's power. The method of Deleuze, with the slight modifications I have spoken of, is much to be preferred for first attempts. But, after all, each process will succeed if it inspire confidence in those who employ it.'

In our next GAZETTE we will present some remarks descriptive of the individuals who may be considered most predisposed and likely to receive the Mesmeric influence.

THE MESMERIST'S GAZETTE.

HOW TO DEMESMERISE.

The process necessary to awaken the somnambulist is termed Demesmerising. This is effected by simply making passes the *reverse* of those by which the mesmeric sleep has been induced. The mesmerist prepares himself for the operation by placing his hands back to back, instead of, as previously, extending the palms. The hands are then moved rapidly one from another before the face of the patient, and then, by degree, the passes are continued in a *downward* direction, i. e, from the head to the lower extremities. Three things are, however, absolutely necessary on the part of the operator—caution, patience, and confidence. Failing in either of these he will experience great difficulty—not unaccompanied by some danger in restoring the patient to his natural state. Before, therefore, attempting to Demesmerise, the operator must dismiss from his mind every thought unconnected with the process upon which he is engaged—he must, in fact, concentrate all his mental faculties to one point, a perfect *willing* that the somnambulist *shall* awaken. There should not exist the slightest trepidation—the least mental doubt of his own irresistible *power* to produce what he *desires!* 'In general, says Teste, in his *Practical* manual of animal magnetism,' the time spent in awakening is long in proportion to the length of the sleep. I have sometimes though rarely, employed half an hour at it. What is happily still more rare is the absolute impossibility of succeeding; this happens when you would awaken certain somnambulists against their will, or when, through some unknown physiological circumstance, your somnambulist must sleep a determinate time, which is not yet past. Wait, and commence operations when the propitious time shall arrive.

As to nervous accidents, you will avoid them by proceeding with caution, slowly if need be, and always with patience. It sometimes happens, whatever be done, that these will occur, but it is only an affair of a few moments to assuage them.

If there still remain a tendency to sleep, recommend a few hours' repose in bed; for somnambulists have found in some few hours of magnetic sleep as much refreshment as in a whole night of ordinary repose.

We may quote the following newspaper paragraph, amusing in itself, although it might have proved a serious affair, as an illustration (if true, and we see no reason why it should not be so) of the mischievous folly of parties attempting to *play* at mesmerism, who are totally ignorant of it as a science, and who do not possess that self-reliance which is absolutely necessary for its successful practice:—

MESMER IN PETICOATS.—Animal magnetism rules the hour 'in these parts,' to the exclusion of almost every other subject. An instance of the truth of this took place the other day in the neighbourhood of Stonehaven, which was the cause of a good deal of amusement to some parties, and warning to others; while with those more immediately concerned, it will, perhaps, have the effect of clapping a stopper on their researches. Two servant girls, who had been present at a lecture on the new science, determined, it appears, to settle their wavering opinions on the subject by a mode that would, in their eyes, be completely infallible,—by their own experience. Having watched the motions of the operator, nothing seemed to them more simple than his soporific gesticulations. The staring, the waving of the hands, the pressing of the thumbs, &c., were all gone through, and in 'due season' the patient fell asleep. The laudable curiosity of the operatress was so far gratified; but she no sooner saw her companion insensible than she began to have some misgivings of the consequence, and letting alone the craniological part of the performance, proceeded to awaken the sleeper. This was, however, no easy matter. She hugged and tugged, and called upon her, but all in vain; till at length, overcome by an agony of terror, her screaming alarmed the house. The master and mistress made their appearance, and successively used their utmost efforts to awaken the slumbering *mesmeree*. She was pulled hither and thither, pricked with pins, and soused with cold water, still all to no purpose. Her master at length thought of the bellows, and after blowing in her face for some time with them, succeeded in demesmerising her. A circumstance of a like nature closed the experiments of some boys at one of the rope-manufactories in town on Monday last.—*Aberdeen Herald.*

THE MESMERISTS' GAZETTE.

"Circumstances," to adopt Robert Owen's favourite phrase, "over which we had no control," have left us no time for preparing our promised paper "on the individuals most likely to possess and receive the mesmeric influence." We must, therefore, defer it for our next GAZETTE, giving in its stead an extract or two from Dr. Elliotson's recently published "Numerous Cases of Surgical Operations without Pain in the Mesmeric State," which are so far valuable, as indicating some of the physical blessings derivable from mesmerism. But these extracts will more particularly interest the many who know what it is to endure such excruciating agony as called forth from poor Robert Burns—the exclamation,

"Where'er that place be, priests ca' hell,
Where a' the tones o' mis'ry yell,
And ranked plagues their numbers tell,
In dreadfu' raw,
Thou, tooth-ache, surely bear'st the bell
Amang them a'!"

In the summer of 1841 I exhibited such mesmeric facts to Dr. Engledue, Mr. Gardiner, and Mr. Prideaux, of Hampshire, as to convince them of the reality of mesmerism. They have all become powerful and practical supporters of the truth. Mr. Gardiner by its means soon afterwards cured a young lady in the Isle of Wight of the most distressing nervous symptoms, which had long incapacitated her from either occupation or amusement, and resisted all medical treatment. Besides being cured, she exhibited many of the most wonderful mesmeric phenomena, which I went over to the Island to witness. In her state of sleep-waking she felt no mechanical injury, and therefore suffered nothing when a tooth was extracted. I will give the particulars of the extraction in the words of Mr. Gardiner:—

'To the Editor of the *Hampshire Telegraph.*

'SIR,—Some erroneous reports having been recently circulated on the subject of an important and interesting experiment, in which Mr. Martin the dentist, of Portsmouth, removed two teeth during the mesmeric trance, without the knowledge or suffering on the part of the patient, I beg you will favour me by inserting the following simple statement of the case. Having been interrupted in the course of certain mesmeric experiments by a violent tooth-ache in one of my patients (whom I had exhibited to Drs. Elliotson and Engledue), it occurred to me that the *insensibility*, which is an invariable concomitant of the true sleep-waking state, would afford me an admirable opportunity of benefitting the sufferer, and of extending the application of mesmerism. My friend, Dr. Engledue, obtained the assistance of Mr. Martin, a gentleman who knew *little*, and believed less, about mesmerism, and *who decidedly questioned the practicability of the proposed operation.* He came. In *two minutes* the patient (a young lady) was in the perfect mesmeric trance, and therefore insensible. Mr. Martin seized the tooth (a molar or jaw tooth) with the forceps, purposely prolonged the *wrench* (as agreed upon by Dr. Engledue prior to his visit, in order to test *thoroughly* the insensibility of the patient), and drew forth the tooth. *Not a pang or symptom of suffering!* In a short time I restored the patient to her natural state in the usual manner. Upon being *told* that the tooth had been extracted, she exclaimed, '*Did I feel it?*' a singular greeting to a *dentist's* ears! Mr. Martin then proceeded to examine her mouth, and suggested the removal of *another* tooth. The patient laughingly consented, and sat again. In one minute and a half I again entranced her, and she became of course insensible as before. The tooth being in an advanced stage of decay, was crushed under the instrument, and the remnants were with much trouble extracted.

'During the whole of this trying operation not a groan or complaint escaped the patient. Shortly afterwards I again restored her, upon which she turned to the glass to *ascertain* whether or not she had really lost the second tooth. It would be difficult to determine which party evinced the greater degree of delight and astonishment,—the one having witnessed a novel and most astounding phenomenon,—the other having been *unconsciously*, almost magically, freed from her tormentors.

'I have confined myself to a simple narration of facts, and shall not trespass on your columns by detailing the general phenomena of mesmerism which are nevertheless of the highest importance and interest. Whenever a new truth is advanced, short-sighted individuals immediately ask '*Cui bono?*'—There is an answer.

'I remain, Sir, your obedient Servant,
JOHN B. W. S. GARDINER.'

'*Portsmouth, Dec. 9th*, 1841.'

Mr. Prideaux, who practises at Southampton, has had extraordinary experience in this way, and obliged me with the following letter:—

'My dear Sir,

'In compliance with your wishes, I have great pleasure in furnishing you with a few brief particulars of the cases in which I have operated on the teeth of patients when in a state of magnetic sleep. My first information of the operation of tooth extraction having been performed during this state, and without pain to the patient, was derived from Teste's "*Manuel Pratique du Magnétisme Animal*," published in Paris in 1840; a work not known in this country so much as it deserves to be. Upon becoming myself a magnetiser, I naturally became desirous of trying an experiment so applicable in my own profession, and an opportunity soon presented itself. A patient I was then in the habit of frequently entrancing, and who when in this state had always shown insensibility to the ordinary tests of feeling, such as pricking, pinching, &c., had a great number of decayed teeth and stumps, from which she suffered so much, without being able to summon resolution to undergo their extraction, as gladly to embrace my proposal of being operated upon in the mesmeric state. During the next magnetic sitting, I took the opportunity of removing two of the most troublesome teeth, and with the most perfect success. *The patient sat with the hands quietly folded in the lap, the countenance was placid and serene, and the whole attitude that of repose;* in short, not the slightest trace of mental emotion was perceptible, and upon being awakened, it was not till she had examined her mouth that she could credit the reality of her painless release from her tormentors.

'I should have proceeded in the task of extraction on this occasion, but it appeared to me a pity that a phenomenon so interesting in its results to every friend of humanity, from the new era it promised to introduce in operative surgery, and withal so calculated to carry conviction to the minds of sceptics, should be shrouded in comparative privacy, (only one friend was present,) and I accordingly resolved to defer the extraction of the remainder, and invite a party of medical men to be eye-witnesses of the operation. I took an early opportunity of doing so, and on this occasion extracted two teeth and three stumps from the patient, who, to their great amazement, manifested the same insensibility and indifference to the operation as before.

'I have since extracted from the same patient seven teeth and eight stumps, at three different sittings, (making in the whole, eleven teeth and eleven stumps,) with equally satisfactory results, and I may remark that the patient being comparatively a young person, no absorption of the alveolar process and gum had taken place, and all the teeth were firmly rooted.

'On the last occasion, *five teeth and two stumps* were extracted preparatory to her being supplied with a set of artificial teeth. Several were from the front of the mouth, and as tooth after tooth was extracted, the patient wss excessively diverted at the alteration in her appearance; in fact she could with difficulty control her laughter; and as soon as the operation was over she called for a looking-glass, and holding it up before her *closed* eyes, examined her mouth attentively, drawing back the lips on either side with her fingers to get a better view, and finishing by a hearty fit of laughter at the droll figure she presented with her mouth almost toothless. This sitting was witnessed by a friend of mine, Mr. Henry Goode, B.A., of Pembroke College, Cambridge, who chanced to be spending a few days with me at the time, and who will be happy on all occasions to corroborate the account I have just given, as well as to produce the teeth extracted if required.

'I have extracted single teeth from three other patients during mesmeric sleep, with equally satisfactory results, *the insensibility being evidently perfect.* In fact, in two of these cases, the patients were *utterly unconscious* during their mesmeric state that any operation had been performed on them, being engaged in a conversation on another subject at the time, which suffered no interruption, beyond a slight indistinctness in articulation during the few seconds the instrument was in the mouth.

'A fifth patient, on whom I have operated during the mesmeric state, is a young lady who required to have several of her molares separated with a file on account of the commencement of decay, and one stopped. I found her a most troublesome and restless patient, in her natural state, shrinking when the cavity in her tooth was touched, and complaining greatly of the unpleasantness of the sensation of filing. I succeeded in entrancing her at the first trial in about five minutes, and in this state she allowed me to operate *for two hours with the most passive indifference,* assuring me she felt nothing, except a slight sensation of heat, when the file was used rapidly and continuously for some time together.

'This case is I think interesting and valuable, and affords some evidence in favour of an opinion I brought forward on analogical grounds, in my pamphlet on the Mental Functions, viz.: that there are distinct sets of nerves for feeling and temperature, an idea which you have since informed me suggested itself to Darwin, from seeing a case of paralysis, in which the sense of temperature remained after feeling was lost.

'The subject is certainly one of importance, and I have made several attempts since to *isolate* these two senses, and in one patient with perfect success. The means I employ are, the application to the skin of a glass stopper heated to a temperature just below what would suffice to raise a blister, to test the sensibility to temperature, and pricking with a common needle, to test that of ordinary sensation; and I possess the power of rendering the patient sensible to the heated stopper and insensible to the needle, or insensible to the heated stopper and sensible to the pricking, or insensible or sensible to both, at pleasure.

'Believe me, my dear Sir, yours very sincerely,

'J. S. PRIDEAUX.'

'*Southampton, Nov. 20th,* 1842.'

1843.

follies, vanities, and indiscretions, knows that my heart is right and my intentions just. To Him I look with confidence for help, not for my own sake, but for those unoffending dear ones who have been brought into the world by my means. I will not despair then, but look forward with hope, and perhaps the clouds which hang over the dawn of 1839 may, by the blessing of Providence, clear away by its noon——. * * Still hoping at fifty !

Jan. 1, 1840.—To-day another year opens upon me with a vast load of debt and many incumbrances. I am suffering under constant anxiety and depression of spirits, which nobody who sees me in society dreams of ; but why should I suffer my own private worries to annoy my friends ?' "

He died on the 24th August 1842, deeply in debt, and leaving five children totally unprovided for. "A subscription was by and by opened at Messrs Ransom's. The executors, and two or three old friends in middle life, headed it by very liberal sums—L.100 each ; but *few, very few, of those who had either profited as politicians by Theodore Hook's zeal and ability, or courted him in their lofty circles for the fascination of his wit, have as yet been found to show any feeling for his unfortunate offspring.* We must mention one very generous exception : his majesty, the king of Hanover, the instant he understood the circumstances, transmitted L.500. Two members of Mr Hook's own family have come forward also in a manner worthy of their high characters, to an extent, we believe, not altogether convenient for their means. But still, down to this hour, the result is trifling—wholly inadequate to the necessities of the afflicting case." Hear all this, ye children of genius, tremble, and be wise !

RECENT DEMONSTRATIONS IN MESMERISM.

MESMERISM has lately been much in vogue in Paris and London. Even in our own cool and sagacious northern region, it has attracted great attention, chiefly in consequence of the exhibitions of a few lecturers, one of whom had a train of no fewer than fifty patients. The philosophical, with a few exceptions, grieve and proclaim their disbelief ; the knowing set it all down as one of those dexterous impostures which from time to time astonish the simple ; some hesitatingly acknowledge that they are more at a loss to disbelieve than to believe, so powerful has been the evidence presented to them ; another class, if we may judge from symptoms, give full credence, but endeavour to bury their convictions in their own bosoms, the confession being so sure to expose them to derision. In so extraordinary a state of matters, we may perhaps be allowed to give a selection of observations made by ourselves and others, merely to convey some knowledge of this so-called science to such as may have a curiosity on the subject, which they possess no other means of readily gratifying.

The simplest class of the alleged phenomena are those in which a community of sensation between the patient and another person in contact has been shown. These peculiar phenomena have been exhibited on many occasions by a young female under cure for catalepsy in Glasgow. Sitting in the trance, with a close bandage over her eyes, and the hands of the operator in hers, she tells the taste of any stuff put into his mouth, and shrinks with pain when he is pricked, though she does not do so when she is herself pierced with a pin. An observer, brought to witness the experiments, states as follows :—" I had a few strong ginger lozenges in my pocket ; I placed one of them in his mouth, while he was holding the patient's hands in his. He then asked her, in a low voice, what she had in her mouth ? Her lips moved, as if in the act of tasting, and she replied without hesitation, 'It is ginger.' I then took the operator's seat, silently putting into my own mouth a quantity of common salt, from a salt-dish on the table. I took firm hold of the patient's hands, and she was again asked what she had in her mouth. Her lips moved again, as in the act of tasting, and she hesitated. I had up till this time kept the salt on my tongue, without any action or suction, so that it was not dissolved, or, at all events, had never touched the palate. The operator told me to swallow the substance which I had in my mouth. This I accordingly did, and she immediately said, 'It is salt.' Several of the other visitors tried other substances—sugar, water, ginger again—and she never failed to state with perfect correctness what the substance was. One of the gentlemen who accompanied me was sitting opposite the patient, holding her hands in his, and when we pulled his hair, or pinched his arm, or pricked his hand with a needle, she [illegible]

various effects upon a patient by the silent exercise of will. A healthy young female was under the mesmeric trance in a private house in Glasgow, in March last. "A gentleman stood two or three feet from the chair she occupied, and looked intently upon her left hand, which lay quietly upon her lap, with the view of influencing her to raise it. In a short time both hands rose. The gentleman then wished only the left hand to fall ; but both hands fell together." The sleep of this patient having been renewed by another person, and her eyes again bound up, he once or twice caused her hands to rise by the influence of his will alone. It being premised that light is offensive to such a patient, and that they see only in its reverse—darkness—we proceed to state that the mesmeriser left the room, and shut the door, behind which he mentally wished "Come to me." The girl gave a start, turned her head round, and then, rising slowly and gracefully, walked across the room to the door, which she opened, when, meeting a glare of light, she turned back with an expression of fear.* Another witness on a subsequent evening repeated these experiments with the greatest precautions as to bandaging of the eyes, and succeeded in raising her hand, as before. He adds :—" I had arranged in the forenoon with one of the gentlemen present, that, at a time to be indicated by myself, and without notice to the operator, he should leave the room and go through a passage, and into another room, and that, at the end of three minutes, he should *wish* the patient to come to him. I had been told that, on several previous occasions, a person had gone out of the room, and at once expressed a wish that she should follow, and that she had immediately done so. But I thought it possible that she might so follow because she *heard* the person go out. To test the experiment properly, therefore, I arranged, as I have stated, that the gentleman who went out should not *conceive his wish* till the expiration of the time I have mentioned. When the three minutes had elapsed, I looked towards the patient, and observed that she still kept her seat ; but she was sitting forward in an attitude of attention, as if listening, and she continued thus for nearly three minutes longer. Thinking that the experiment had failed, I said to the operator that he had better speak to her. He accordingly approached her, and, taking her hand, inquired if she wanted anything. She said, 'What is it you wish me to do ?' 'Nothing,' he answered ; 'I did not wish anything.' But he had misunderstood her question. It was evident from what followed that she was asking for *directions* from him as to what she ought to do. He then said to her, 'Do you hear anything ?' 'Yes,' she replied, 'a voice calls me.' 'Well, then, go,' said the operator. She now rose from her seat, and came into the middle of the room ; but the light from the fire, into which this movement had brought her, seemed to confuse her, and, after some hesitation, she said to the operator, 'I cannot find the way—put me on the way.' On this he led her to the door, and set her face *towards the darkness.* As soon as this was done, she went on with confidence, and without hesitation—walked through the dark passage—went straight into the room in which the gentleman was—and proceeded to the particular corner in which he was standing."†

We have made particular inquiries as to the character of the individuals who reported these facts, and are satisfied that they are respectable persons, who wrote as they thought they had seen.

Phrenology has become strangely complicated with mesmerism, in consequence of many persons in the mesmeric sleep manifesting various sentiments when the appropriate organs were touched. This combination took its rise, we believe, in America, and we have already given an account of some of its early appearances in that quarter of the world. Now, boys taken off the street and mesmerised, are fingered through the whole gamut of the human passions with the least appearance of difficulty. Early in May, Mr Craig, after lecturing on mesmerism in a public hall in Edinburgh, and experimenting with persons whom he carries along with him as patients, was induced to mesmerise a member of the audience for their better satisfaction. A man who had once been thrown into the sleep before, was with difficulty prevailed upon (so says the reporter) to come upon the stage and submit to the operator. Complete success seemed to attend the experiment, and this man immediately became an object of general curiosity. We afterwards saw him experimented upon in private, and we shall describe what we saw. Let it first be understood, that the individual in question, though of humble rank and education, is in a situation implying approved honesty, and has evidently endeavoured to cultivate

The Liverpool Mail.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 1843.

It is one of the misfortunes of persons in our profession to be doomed, on various occasions, to waste our brains in studying subjects which are not only as abstruse as they are uninviting, but which, in sober truth, we have no very earnest desire to understand.

For instance, what do we know of what is termed Phrenology? Precious little, indeed! It is a study—science we still disdain to call it—which we have pursued with much about the same reluctance and aversion as a child swallows a nauseous drug. Still we have looked at it, examined it, tasted and tried it, but with what result? Not one satisfactory to our own mind—not one in which feeling is gratified by conviction—not one in which truth stands before you in awful majesty and constrains you to worship it. On the other hand, of what is called *mesmerism* we are still more ignorant, not that we have altogether neglected its challenges, but because the subject is equally repulsive, and appears to us to be ridiculous.

We are most ready to admit that our ignorance, if it be ignorance, arises from our incapacity to comprehend the mysteries of these new arts and operations. If any man charges us with ignorance on either phrenology or mesmerism, if he make the charge upon any valid authority, we shall certainly plead guilty. And yet we are asked to offer an opinion. Mr. Braid, of Manchester, a surgeon of undoubted ability and increasing practice, and whose name is not unknown to the lecturing world, has sent us a book, which is entitled "Neurypnology; *or, the Rationale of Nervous Sleep, considered in relation with Animal Magnetism.*" In return for such politeness, and as a proof of the high estimation in which we hold the arts and sciences of Manchester, we have actually committed the folly of reading the volume through *most attentively*, and now we shall tell our readers what we think of its contents.

We must be brief in our definitions. Phrenology, according to Coombe of Edinburgh, and other authorities, is a theory in which mind is supposed to be represented by matter—that all the passions and sentiments, and mental powers of the human being are developed by certain protuberances on his cranium. For instance, a man cannot be a great poet unless he possess a certain development; or, in other words, if he possess the supposed development, he is capable of becoming a great poet.

Mesmerism is a discovery by which a sort of magnetic influence is communicated by an overcharged adept in the art to his accomplice or his victims, and under the power of which the said accomplice, or hysterical female, either feigns, or really falls asleep, and in this sleep she dances, sings, kneels, prays, scolds, kicks, steals, embraces, and plunges into deep love and affection, according to circumstances.

On these two absurdities, Mr. Braid, with great dexterity, and untiring industry, and with perfect honesty of purpose we believe—in short, with the fanaticism of professional ardour and genius, has constructed a new theory, which beats all Germany into fits, and puts M. De Lafontaine and young France into the coal cellar and perpetual shade. He has found out that magnetic influence is humbug—*that* one imposition he floors at once. He takes the Edinburgh phrenologist by the throat, much in the way that a mastiff would a thief in the disguise of a beggar, and after nearly choking him, tells him that matter *does not* think—that matter has nothing to do with thinking, as certain infidels teach—but that it is the sand upon which mind traces its fingers—that it is the slate upon which it draws its forms, or records its numbers, or preserves its observations and recollections. The blacksmith's arm is not made muscular by its exercise of a heavy hammer, but by the mind directing and sustaining it in its valuable labours. Mr. Braid consequently flings phrenology into the dark waters of the Irwell—a fit hades for such a monstrosity.

Now we come to Mr. Braid himself. He has thrown phrenology and its *materialism* overboard and he has sent mesmerism to its original father a fifth-rate philosopher of Germany. But what does he give us in the room of these exorcised and transported spirits? Why, God help him!—only a more ingenious and refined ideality of both—a recombination and novel presentment of the bones of the criminals upon whom he had performed the last order of the law. By his scheme, phrenology and mesmerism are admitted into partnership under new names. Like a Manchester copartnery, the house of "Jones, Smith, and Taylor," is declared to be dissolved, under unpleasant circumstances; but on the next market day the house comes out fresh under the firm of "Taylor, Smith and Co.," poor Jones, being a Welshman, consenting to go last for the sake of appearances, but the same parties and no others, being in the new as in the old concern.

This is exactly Mr. Braid's mode of dealing with his declaredly original and certainly more specious and captivating experiments and their alleged results. Before we make any extracts from his really ingenious work, it is necessary to premise that the effects produced by mesmerism (or a painful straining of the eyes, which we have tried and proved repeatedly years ago, as provocatives to sleep) on the organs as classed by phrenologists, are called "hypnotic" effects—that the party so subdued by the sleepy influence is supposed to be "hypnotized"—that is, in a condition to commit various antics under the direction of her medical or philosophical operator. Now listen:—

A young girl is hypnotized—she glides into the most beautiful hysterics, and what does she do?—"Besides imitating everything done or said in English, she imitated correctly French, Italian, Spanish,

German, Latin, and even Greek; *every word was spoken with the utmost precision*, and has been done several times since before many professional and scientific gentlemen and ladies, who can bear testimony to the extraordinary fidelity of pronunciation and emphasis. I need scarcely add, SHE COULD NOT DO SO *when tested after being awakened.*" !

This, to begin with, is staggering. It *may* be true; but the reader has a great deal more to digest. We quote another case of the same kind :—

"Miss ——, entirely ignorant of the subject, and had never seen an experiment of the kind, and expected only to be *attempted* to be hypnotized, but whilst she wished to be tried, she had expressed to the friend who introduced her, that she could not be made to sleep. She exhibited veneration solemnly, with hope, glowing devotion, and with ideality and language, overwhelming ecstasy, expressing her happiness and prospect of entering into heaven; "self-esteem," the most conceited prude; "firmness," most decided; "adhesiveness and friendship," and this in one side, and "combativeness and destructiveness," on the other at pleasure; "imitation" *in perfection, speaking correctly every language tried;* "benevolence" extremely marked, to the effusion of tears; "acquisitiveness, conscientiousness, eventuality, the desire to eat, smell, spectra," &c., &c. *She was quite unconscious of all that had happened, and the friend who brought her to me knows she had no prompting.* She has been tried once since with the same results."

The ladies seem to like these hysterical exhibitions, and we do not wonder at it considering the life they lead, the meeting houses they attend, and the unwholesome atmosphere they breathe. One lady, whom Mr. BRAID touched in her nervous sleep, upon the organs of "constructiveness and ideality," he informs us, "drew a very good sketch of a cottage, *putting in doors and windows correctly.*" He does not tell us whether this very clever lady was taught to draw, but he says that she was unconscious of having done so while under the subjection of his fingers.

The following is a very rich illustration, and in fairness we give it in the exact words of our author :—

"At a conversazione a few days after, in the presence of Lady S., Sir Thomas Arbuthnot, Colonel Arbuthnot, Major Wilbraham, John Frederick Foster, Esq., chairman of the quarter sessions, D. Maude, Esq., stipendiary magistrate, and many others, both gentlemen and ladies, after exhibiting the phenomena on those who had been previously tested, there was a wish expressed to see some one operated on *for the first time.* I offered to try any one present, and a lady at length consented, whom I never saw before that day, nor since. She exhibited all the usual phenomena very decidedly. Under "acquisitiveness," *she stole two handkerchiefs from ladies, and a ring from Mr. Foster's finger.* After several manifestations had been exhibited, the moment I touched "conscientiousness," she seemed distressed, and set off and searched out the proper parties to whom to restore the respective articles. They had changed places, but she found them out, and gave back the handkerchiefs to their owners, and also put the ring on the very finger of Mr. Foster from which she had taken it. *She was a strict methodist, who had never danced in her life, and who, if awake, would have considered it a sin to dance.* However, under the excitement of suitable music, *she cut a very good figure at waltzing. When awakened, she remembered nothing of all which had happened.*

This is delightful! Mr. BRAID proceeds to inform us that another young lady, "very *accomplished,*" and possessing "great energy of mind," came under his influence, and what does the reader think was her accomplishment? Under "friendship and adhesiveness," says our author, "and *destructiveness* on the opposite side, *she protected me* AND STRUCK HER OWN MOTHER." !

"A young lady of 22 years of age," was tried, and having exhibited the manifestations, the following performance took place :—

"With the eyes bandaged, she had a pencil put in her right hand, when a number of organs were excited, but she showed no evidence of any desire to use the pencil till "constructiveness and ideality" were excited. The moment this was done, however, she scrambled till she got some paper, and began drawing, and made a very tolerable profile. When "acquisitiveness" was excited, *she stole a ring off Mr. Foster's finger, who, while I was exciting various manifestations, left the room.* The moment I touched "conscientiousness," she set off in search of Mr. Foster, walked round the room the very way he went, then left that room, crossed the lobby into the front parlour, and having made a gyration in this room, she came out and went into a back parlour, where she found Mr. Foster, and put the ring on the very finger whence she took it. *She evidently traced him through the air by smell,* as she followed the exact track he had taken, for he had first gone into the front parlour."

One more extract, and we have done.

"A very intelligent lady, who knew nothing of phrenology, and had never seen a phreno-hypnotic experiment, was operated on. On "benevolence" being excited, she seemed very distressed, and when asked what she was thinking of, said it was of a poor man who had lost his saw and hammer, that he had no money to purchase others with, and his children were starving. Under "veneration and ideality," wished to die, to go to heaven; under combativeness, first looked very angry, *then jumped up and gave a blow, which upset the candlestick.* On "destructiveness" being excited (after she had exhibited several other organs), *she shook her fist,* then started on her feet, looked furious, and sprang across the room, her arm at full length, similar to a person fencing, and seized hold of a young lady's hand, and *nearly transfixed it with her nails.*"

It is not our intention to deny that the extraordinary acts above related were done in the presence of Mr. BRAID, and before many respectable witnesses; nor is it our intention to raise the question whether our author believes that the acts so done were caused by hypnotic influence under his direction. It is far from our wish to impute fraud to Mr. BRAID, whatever we may think of his credulity and his enthusiasm. We are trying the allegations by the usual tests of evidence, and we are compelled to say that we do not believe the witnesses. For instance, it is easy for some score or two of respectable, credible, and intelligent spectators to testify that they saw this and that lady, in a sort of hysterical trance, dance, sing, draw, kneel, pray, rock a cradle, imitate the fondling of an infant, strike or kick their mothers, embrace Mr. BRAID, or steal Mr. FOSTER's watch. All this we shall admit to be true; but these facts do not sustain the issue, namely, that they performed these exploits under the influence of hypnotism. Much, we might say everything, depends upon the veracity of the witnesses. On this point the case is sadly defective. The witnesses, for themselves, are numerous enough; but their testimony is unsupported by the collateral props of character, which can alone be afforded by well-known and unimpeachable witnesses. We are told that Mrs. A. and Misses B., C., D. and E., are all highly respec-

table, highly educated, and most intelligent persons; but we have no proof of this. Indelicacy, perhaps, will be pleaded in favour of the ladies. But we cannot admit the plea. Young ladies that can steal gentlemen's rings, strike their mothers, and embrace strangers in a public room, cannot surely be overwhelmingly oppressed with modesty, or, if all were right and correct, ashamed to see their names in a newspaper.

By the way, how come the hypnotized thieves to steal invariably Mr. FOSTER's ring? What is still more strange, after their organ of conscientiousness is touched, how do they know that the ring belongs to Mr. FOSTER, if their eyes be bandaged, and hunt after him from one room to another until they find him in order to restore the stolen trinket? This is surpassing marvellous! Mr. BRAID says that they trace the owner *by the smell*. This is more curious still. Is Mr. FOSTER a fox, or a perfumer, or is he scented for the occasion? Mr. BRAID, we think, attempts to prove too much. If the ladies could smell out the owner, why not go directly to the spot where he was? Perhaps it was necessary to adopt the *modus operandi* of fox hounds, and follow in the track however circuitous.

As for the methodist woman who had never danced in her life except when Mr. BRAID fiddled, and who had considered dancing a sin until then, we must put that down as purely ridiculous. As to the persons who repeat words and sentences in various languages, when under hypnotic impulse, which they cannot for their lives do when *wide awake*, that is a fact solely depending upon evidence—upon proof which is not given. There is also a singular inconsistency in the experiment where the young lady "struck her own mother," and which does violence to the principles which the author maintains. It seems there are three organs, Friendship, Adhesiveness, and Destructiveness. This young lady was first operated on the first two organs, and under their influence she stuck affectionately to the operator, Mr. BRAID; but when the latter organ was touched, she struck her mother. Why? Is Destructiveness a respecter of persons? Instead of striking her mother, if she had commenced eating the doctor, the laws of phrenology and mesmerism would have been more naturally enforced.

But we are tired of this. It is too much for a weekly paper; but the task has been in some degree imposed upon us, and more particularly when it has been noticed in eloquent sermons from the pulpit. One clergyman asserts that the operator in the cases under review works under satanic influence as the magicians of Egypt did against the great deliverer of Israel. Another thinks the discovery is from above for a humane purpose. Both cannot be right. We think it the folly, the collusive acts, and the credulity of men and women in the present age.

PHRENO-MESMERISM.

Those who delight to run after novelties, to drive away *ennui* in these dull days of November, have recently been satiated to their heart's content, by a visit from a disciple of "Mesmer." The lecturer, Mr. J. D. Brown, of London, was formerly assistant or apprentice to a carpenter in St. Helens, Ipswich. After some prefatory remarks, before commencing his experiments, he observed that Mesmerism had been stigmatized as imposition, but he gave this challenge—that if any body could be produced to *counterfeit* that which he submitted as *real*, then he would plead guilty to the charge of being an impostor. He observed also that the opposition he sometimes received from medical men was of a very unseemly character; but there were many honourable exceptions to counterbalance their influence. It had been said by some medical men, that if they witnessed a successful mesmeric experiment, they would not believe their own senses. He instanced this as one of the difficulties with which he had to contend. He called upon the meeting to appoint their own chairman, and after several unsuccessful applications, Mr. Richard Ransome at length consented to preside. The lecturer then introduced a young woman, by the name of "Miss Bexfield," from Norwich, who, though looking very pale, forthwith placed herself in the chair, and upon whom he was preparing to operate, when the audience submitted that it would be more satisfactory, and the better conducive to *truth*, to take a person indifferently from the crowd, who had not before been under mesmeric influence; this the lecturer declined, alleging that he would go through the experiments with his own patient first, and that he would take other persons afterwards. Then commenced the usual "passes" and "manipulations," when the patient apparently fell into a sound sleep, though, from various indications, she sometimes appeared to be suffering acute pain. Upon applying the usual tests, which he did, by pointing the finger to the patient's head, so as not to come in contact, he pointed to the alleged phrenological organ, "Eventuality," when the patient, in a moaning tone of voice, faintly articulated, "Oh keep off, don't strike!" as if she feared injury from some person. An auditor said he considered this manifestation had nothing to do with the organ referred to, upon which the lecturer asked, whether the auditor did not consider the exclamation to relate to an *event;* to which the auditor replied in the negative, and the laugh was against Mr. Brown. The latter then pointed to the organ "Imitation," upon which the patient stamped her feet, snapped her fingers, whistled, talked, and coughed, in imitation of various persons. An auditor remarked here that the patient imitated the operator *more* than other persons, to which he replied, that these experiments could not always be seen through at a first glance, and that the operator could counteract the influence of the organ in question, at his pleasure! This excited a smile of incredulity on the part of many, upon which, a medical gentleman remarked, that he never saw a patient, in a sound sleep, *breathe so rapidly* as the one before the meeting; when another auditor, and believer in Mesmerism, said that rapid breathing was peculiar to the operation; and the lecturer immediately requested the medical gentleman to raise the lid of the patient's eye, that he might satisfy the audience she was really under Mesmeric influence. This challenge was not accepted, and the audience became impatient for "another patient," but the lecturer proceeded to influence the organ of "Melody," and the patient sung, "Where the bee sucks," in a style which proved that she had not only a good voice, but that she had received musical instruction. Indeed this appeared to be the only part of the performance which gave satisfaction, as was evinced by shouts of *encore*. This was succeeded by cries of "Another patient," when the lecturer resorted to the demesmerising process, and the patient recovered, though apparently very faint and weak, having been under the hands of the operator *two hours!* A long discussion now ensued, the lecturer stating that he had not finished his performance with his first patient, but had been willing to defer to the wishes of the meeting: he should, however, now prefer having for his next patient, a person who had before been under Mesmeric influence. To this, the meeting would not agree, and he conceded to the demand made that an indifferent person should be selected from the audience. Four persons then offered themselves in succession, and the following was the result: I. The first patient was Mr. Robert Corder, jun. The audience after some minutes became impatient and afterwards rather noisy: a quarter of an hour having elapsed, the operator gave it up, and confessed that it was a failure, but entreated that silence might be kept. He asked the patient whether he had not felt the Mesmeric influence upon his eyes, to which the latter replied, that he never had felt more wide awake in his life. II. Mr. Tracey, jun. This patient had been already partially under Mesmeric influence, but the operator again failed, alleging that the patient had raised his eye brows, and looked at the audience on either side of the chair, and pronounced it to be "a decided case of resistance." III. Mr. George Ellis. This patient was not in the chair five minutes before he "bolted." The lecturer complained that he was not allowed fair-play, though he admitted fair-play had been shewn in the two previous cases. IV. Mr. W. Scott, surgeon.

This gentleman said he should be perfectly willing to be operated upon with his eyes shut, but the operator said, "there were those in the room, upon whom he hoped he could produce results similar to those shewn in the first case." Some of the audience vociferated, "Humbug! the meeting is only called to extort money from the public!" The patient at length took his seat in the chair, but after a trial of twenty minutes, during which fair-play was observed by the audience, the operator again "gave it up," observing that this patient might require half-a-dozen experiments, and in the end he might succeed, and he had no doubt he should, with a fair trial.

The result excited much disappointment and clamour, in the midst of which it was agreed upon that, on Thursday night, "Miss Bexfield" should undergo a trial at the hands of a gentleman of acknowledged talent, residing in the town, to test the reality in her case of the Mesmeric influence; and also that some patients should undergo the operation in private, before disinterested parties—the result to be made known to the public. The lecturer said he was decidedly at the service of the meeting, and that the propositions agreed to were quite fair. A great uproar now ensued, in the midst of which the Chairman asked whether the operator had anything else to adduce in support of the truth of Mesmerism; to which the lecturer replied that he would take a person in the meeting, who had before been under Mesmeric influence, but he appeared to decline any other description of patients. This only excited the more uproar, and many persons gave vent to their displeasure in language anything but palatable to the lecturer. The storm waxed in intensity by the sarcastic manner of the chairman in referring to the terms of the lecturer's handbill, and to the announcement that if the audience were dissatisfied, the money would be returned at the doors; observing that, "until they heard from the lecturer's own lips that it was a failure, the audience ought to be quiet." In the midst of a scene of uproar, the lecturer said, he had been disappointed by the non-arrival of an assistant, and that he had been thrown into a dilemma; but he appealed to them whether he had not done his best to deserve their approbation, by not only having acceded to the two propositions agreed upon, but also by having broken through his own arrangements, at their request, to operate upon individuals selected indifferently from the room. He alluded also to the question put by the Chairman whether he had any thing else to adduce in support of the truth of Mesmerism, to which he could only reply that he had carried out his pledges, and that if further pressed, he must return to his former patient. This was received with shouts of ironical laughter, when the Chairman said the lecturer's explanation might be satisfactory to himself, but it was not so to the audience; and some of the latter taking their cue from this observation, vociferated, "The operator has had a fair trial, and any further attempt to subjugate the understandings of the people would be a great insult." The Chairman said, he should put the question to the vote, when he was reminded that no proposition had been made, and confusion became worse confounded, upon which, the Chairman said, he wished to ask the meeting whether they were satisfied with what they had heard; and this having been proposed by an auditor as a specific proposition, another gentleman got up and moved an amendment, that it be put to the meeting, whether the effects they had witnessed, were produced by deceptive means. The Chairman was persisting in putting the original motion first, when he was called to order by several individuals, and he ultimately put the amendment, which was carried by at least two-thirds of the audience. The Chairman then suggested that the money received at the doors be applied to the benefit of the East Suffolk Hospital, but this was refused by the lecturer, who demanded another trial, observing that he had failed from having acceded to the requisitions made by the audience. A long and angry altercation then ensued, in the course of which the lecturer agreed to give tickets for free admission on Thursday night, and they were accordingly issued to the audience. This, however, did not satisfy some persons, who clamoured for the money taken at the doors being deposited in the hands of the Chairman, and the latter having supported the demand, the lecturer counted down 40s. in silver, one of the auditors saying, "That's enough;" but the Chairman, backed by his friends, succeeded in getting possession of the whole of the proceeds, which the lecturer handed over with a heavy heart, exclaiming, "There, you've got it *all* now!" whilst a clamorous opponent of Mesmerism actually insisted upon the lecturer yielding up possession of his *coat and hat!* It was a subject of regret to some impartial spectators, to witness the treatment the lecturer received: he could hardly have received worse, admitting the first experiments to have been the result of imposition. He was hustled and assailed by showers of peas, until he became almost bewildered. Indeed, but for the proximity of some policemen, it was expected that he would have been kicked into the street.

On Thursday evening, shortly before eight o'clock, the doors of the lecture room were thrown open, when a tremendous rush was made by a large number of the most respectable of the middle and trading classes, with several professional gentlemen, to obtain admission, and by eight o'clock not only the lobbies, but the yard adjacent to the apartment, were also choked up by a dense mass, many thinking themselves fortunate in getting a mere glimpse of the platform from the windows.

It was a considerable time before order could be observed, but it is only due to the audience to say in the outset that, throughout the proceedings they manifested a strong disposition to see "fair-play," though there were occasional interruptions. Miss Bexfield, the patient of Mr. Brown, took her seat on the platform, in order to fulfil the pledge given by Mr. Brown on Tuesday evening. Mr. A. B. Cook was the gentleman selected to operate, from his well-known phrenological acquirements, and it was arranged that the audience should hand up to the Chairman the names of the organs they wished to have influenced, written upon slips of paper, these papers to be handed to the operator, and Mr. Brown being kept in entire ignorance of the names of such organs, in order to prevent any collusion between him and the patient. This, throughout, was observed to the very letter. The operator soon threw the patient into apparently a sound mesmeric sleep, when the different organs were excited, the audience observing the strictest silence. The Chairman then proceeded to announce the result. He said, benevolence was attempted to be operated upon, and as far as the operation went in my humble judgment, I should say it was cleverly done: the answer to benevolence was very evident to you that of imitation. Melody was exceedingly well answered. Gaiety was replied to with generosity, as she produced her reticule and emptied the contents. Number I have every reason to suppose was answered by acquisitiveness. Self-esteem, that appeared as if she was going into a fit. Mr. Cook: You do not understand the phrenological manifestations; I am bound to say the answer was quite correct. The Chairman next referred to imitation, observing, I regard her answer here as self-esteem, because she expressed herself as being exceedingly talented in the millinery line. Mr. Cook said, that you have mistaken for constructiveness. Here several auditors interposed, being dissatisfied with the Chairman, who by his manner appeared disposed to turn the whole affair into ridicule, and Mr. Cook was accordingly requested to give a fair version of the matter. That gentleman commenced by assuring the audience that the lecturer had had no idea of the organs he had intended to excite, and then gave the following faithful version. I: "Benevolence," the answer was *imitation*. II: "Melody," answered, as you heard, by a song—that was correct. III: "Gaiety," that was mistaken for *benevolence*. IV: "Number" that was mistaken for *acquisitiveness*. V: "Self-esteem," I must say I never before saw a more correct manifestation. VI: "Imitation," that was answered by *constructiveness*. VII: "Veneration," that was answered by the patient going down upon her knees, and reciting a prayer. VIII: "Firmness," that was mistaken for *time*. So that eight organs have undergone operation. I have thus given you the answers, and I hope you will give me credit for having bestowed the best attention I could on the matter, to arrive at a correct conclusion. The audience accorded to Mr. Cook an unanimous vote of thanks. Thus there were five failures in eight experiments. A Mr. Field, a friend of Mr. Brown, who also lectures on Mesmerism, here got up to explain the causes of failure, observing that by the old chart there were 30 phrenological organs, but those by the new map were divided into 200, by which the whole matter had not been a little mystified. He announced that six or seven Ipswich people had been mesmerised within the last two days. Some discussion here took place, a portion of the audience wishing to have patients selected from the crowd, but Mr. Brown replied that he would not again accede to the demand, but would introduce his own patients. An original motion that "there was rational evidence of a great science not fully developed," was then proposed, and it was succeeded by an amendment being submitted condemnatory of the whole; but a gentleman in the meeting remarking that he thought the audience had better go home and mature their opinions by reflection, and that before they could condemn the supposed science as humbug, they must believe that some of the most honourable and eminent men in the metropolis were vile impostors, it was agreed upon not to press either the motion or the amendment, to a division. The Chairman then said the lecturer has done his very best in every respect to meet your views, and as far as he has gone, he has succeeded admirably, far beyond what I could have expected. The receipts of Thursday night, amounting to several pounds, were then handed to Mr. Brown, when he pledged himself to give a night's performance for the benefit of the East Suffolk Hospital, and, in addition, made the liberal promise to "cure all the diseases of the poor *gratis*," which excited a roar of laughter; concluding by offering his thanks to the Chairman for his gentlemanly conduct. The meeting then gave a vote of thanks to Miss Bexfield, and also thanks to the Chairman for his "impartial conduct," and separated, apparently more mystified than ever, by the mysteries of Mesmerism.

Ipswich Journal
Nov. 11. 1843.

[Copied from No. IV. New Series.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PEOPLE'S PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL.

"Quodcunque utile, omnibus notum esse debet."

Sir,—If mesmerism, or rather animal magnetism, requires any additional support, to prove to the sceptic its truth, perhaps the following case may not be without its value.

It may perhaps appear to you, who are doubtless aware of cases more remarkable, to be nothing very much above the average—but, to me, a mere tyro, it has all the charm of novelty, and from the tie of consanguinity, acquires a degree of interest, I can scarcely express.

To be brief—my father—Mr. Marshall Purland, 61, Crown-street, Finsbury-square, was some eight months since, seized with a fit in Finsbury-square; he fell, and dreadfully lacerated the scalp; he was conveyed home—the best medical advice obtained, and in a few days recovered sufficiently to attend to his profession, that of a Dentist; but, from his first seizure, scarce a day has passed without repeated attacks, sometimes *twenty* a day. Turning sharp round—rising quickly—or any sudden movement would bring on the dreadful, but indescribable sensation. Even while at dinner, it has occurred more than once or twice. Some little time since, on his leaving my house with a friend, he fell near my door, and was brought back deluged in blood, from falling upon the pavement. Image, if you can, our feelings, in the midst of this state of things!—The fears for his safety, if he ventured out alone, which his duties as a parochial trustee, repeatedly required; even the post-man's knock was distressing.

Finding little or no relief from medicine, I proposed mesmerism; it was acceded to, tried, and succeeded! From that time, November 12, not the slightest return has been felt. And this was effected by merely entrancing the patient, keeping him quiet about twenty minutes, and then awakening him.

If you think this at all interesting or useful, you are at perfect liberty to make use of it.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant, T. Purland.

59, *Mortimer Street, Cavendish Square,*
November 22, 1843.

P. S.—My father's age is sixty-five.

[This case is one of an important series of facts—mysterious, and at present, incomprehensible no doubt, but still facts. They are fortunately multiplying before our eyes, and it will not be long possible for the most sceptical to resist their influence. Let it be granted that this is a case of delusion, as far as the mesmerism is concerned; that imagination has done all—what then? Here is a person freed from a most distressing malady. That is no delusion. The means resorted to, are most simple and easy of application: if by their use we can so beneficially affect the minds and bodies of others, it is the least we can do to accept of them with thankfulness. To neglect or despise them, because we cannot understand how their effects are produced, does not appear to be any great display of common sense.

We are happy to receive cases of this kind. It is impossible for a benevolent mind not to sympathize with the joy of a son who has been enabled to confer such a benefit on a parent, in a case so seemingly hopeless.]—Ed.

Gratis, at 59, Mortimer Street.

MESMERISING JOHN BULL;

OR, BLEEDING HIM FOR £3000.



QUACK PEEL.—I've got John in a mesmeric sleep, y'r Royal Highness ; so now you can bleed him.

CAMBRIDGE.—Aye, aye, here comes the golden stream again, a little phlebotomy every year, like this, will not be missed by the old boy while he has his eyes shut, and his senses inactive.

ANIMAL MAGNETISM !!!

A short descriptive Lecture, profusely illustrated with Experiments, will be delivered by Messrs. Hughes and Hagley, at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, January 31st, 1844, at the Assembly Rooms, 9, Milton Street, Dorset Square. The Experiments will embrace some of the most curious of Mesmeric Phenomena, viz. Catalepsy of the whole Body, as well as particular Limbs, Artificial Lock-jaw, closed and open, identity of Taste and Sensation, Phreno-Mesmerism, or the excitement of the Phrenological Organs with or without contact, Reading with the Eyes closed and bandaged, Clairvoyance, &c. &c. &c.

N.B. Tickets, One Shilling, to be had at the Doors, on the Morning of the Lecture.

1844

MESMERISM.

A Variety of Mesmeric Phenomana will be produced by

MR. J. W. HAGLEY,

On Tuesday 30 Jan 7 *at 8 o'Clock*

AT

72, NEWMAN STREET, OXFORD STREET.

3. 3-

ANIMAL MAGNETISM.

Admit One

TO THE LECTURE,

On WEDNESDAY, JAN. 31st, at 2 p.m.

AT THE ASSEMBLY ROOMS,

No. 9,

MILTON STREET, DORSET SQUARE.

TICKETS, 1s, EACH. 1844

MESMERISM.

To the Editor of the Kentish Mercury.

Thanks for your impartiality in inserting my paternal notice of "Common Sense."

I have now something to say to yourself and Mr. Hope. You state in your last "that if it were not an acknowledged fact that much clever deception has been practiced by gentlemen of Mr. Brooks's profession, we should certainly have felt that this young man had lost all consciousness, whilst in this state of mesmeric coma." Now I not only deny your assertion, that it is an acknowledged deception, but I defy you to prove it; and I also deny that any man in his normal state could maintain the eye-balls for the length of time mentioned. The tremulous motion of the lids cannot be accounted for. I have a patient whom I cured of deafness, who, when entranced, cannot close her eyes, and the lids are in constant motion, yet she cannot see! This is strange to you, and will seem strange, "and contrary to all rational belief," until, by unprejudiced examination at home, you inquire for yourself. As to your opinion of Mesmerism being "a clever piece of jugglery," of what value is it when placed in juxta-position with facts? facts that you can produce yourself if you are inclined to conviction, and be assured that when you do, you will, like me, regret having used remarks which, however they may gratify the obtuse, draws a smile of pity from the enquirer.

To Mr. Hope I am much obliged—if I had my choice, Mr. Hope is the very person I would select for a champion of Mesmerism. Notwithstanding a great deal of rigmarole about being "grossly insulted," "his duty to the public," and his unfounded assertion "that the confusion was, for ought he knew, created by the lecturer!" There is a vein of acknowledgment running through his letter that there is "something" in mesmerism; it's no use his blinking it, he evidently winces under the conviction that mesmerism is true, but he dares not acknowledge it.—He does not stand alone in that particular, many medical men of eminence believe and practice it privately, who are afraid of the sneers of learned but not sensible men. Mr. Hope's observations, such as "animal magnetism, whatever it may come to in time;" "The phenomena of mesmerism, if real, are evidently a form of deranged nervous action." "There is in fact some truth in the phenomena which are seen in the mesmeric experiments, and it is this little mixture of truth, that has served as a vital spirit to the system," and again his advice to those who attend lectures, "that it is not the best place to be satisfied of that which is not readily arrived at, nor is it to be found except by the most patient enquiries," is most valuable; and I call the particular attention of sceptics to the point.

With Mesmer or D'Eslon I have nothing to do, they may or may not be charlatans, their being so or not can make no difference. Harvey "the circulator" was called a Charlatan! but the blood still circulates. I also perfectly agree with Mr. Hope that medical men are the proper persons to investigate the truth or falsehood of mesmerism; but do my brother professionals do it? I advise them to do it, or they will find non-medical men step in, and without assistance from medicine cure diseases of magnitude; that it can be done, the following case, being but one of many, fully proves.—

* * * * *

With this case I close my notice of Mr. Hope's very sensible and philosophical letter, thanking him heartily for his co-operation in verifying the truth of mesmerism.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obt. servant,
T. PURLAND.

59, Mortimer st., Cavendish sq.

P.S. Mr. Hope's remarks upon Mr. Dalton are quite gratuitous. I do not know Mr. D., but I am sure he is right, and I advise him to persevere, let people laugh, his turn is sure to come

I also beg to state, that Mr. Brooks is an entire stranger to me; it is principle not persons I wish to defend.

To the Editor of the Kentish Mercury.

Sir,—On perusing your impression of the 3rd inst., I find Mr. Hope still attempts to maintain the bold station he has assumed by mere report, and withholding from his student mind the essential ingredients he seems to require viz.,—facts.

Referring to the taunts he received, "of being ignorant in so important a branch of knowledge," he says, I have devoted a small portion of time to it; though small has been fully sufficient to satisfy my student mind, that not only the boy Cook's case was a delusion, but that all similar cases are so.

Now with reference to the reports which have appeared in the public journals, Mr. Hope never saw the lad till noon, on Friday, December 15th, twenty-one hours after he had been magnetized, and in the half waking state, he was never present when any important phoenomena developed themselves—therefore is not competent to judge. Through my refusing to furnish any information to the reporters, many inaccuracies found their way into the newspapers; but the leading facts connected with the existence of clair-voyance, &c,, were correct, and can be corroborated by persons of the highest moral standing in society, whose characters will bear the strictest scrutiny, and whose names I would publish, had I their consent. I say Mr. Hope has no right to give an opinion, when he shunned a meeting arranged by his brother, on the 25th December, who pledged his word he would be present. Where is there the man who after having made an assertion in public, that the case was a delusion, would not have made almost any sacrifice to attend. For the result of that meeting I refer to the medical and other gentlemen, who so kindly assembled on the 26th, to meet Messrs. Hope and Vernon, as to their views on this particular case of Cook's, and more especially to the opinion of the senior surgeon present, Mr. John Atkins, of Union-street, Deptford, which was thus—"Gentlemen, I publicly state it as my opinion, that there has been neither delusion nor collusion in this case;" also the opinions of those, who at subsequent periods have witnessed the lad magnetised by myself. I am ready at any time to test the case with Mr. Hope, provided his tests are in strict accordance with the laws of Humanity.*

Another assertion, (for all that Mr. H. has said of Cook's case are mere assertions,) is "that the boy Cook has been subject to fits all his life." I am sorry I am compelled to call this a palpable falsehood, palmed upon Mr. H., by some news-gathering accident-making busy-body, and in reply assure your readers, upon the best judges in this cure, his father, mother, and all his near relations declare, "that he never had a fit in his life."

I shall, I trust, have an opportunity at some future period, to enter into the particulars of Cook's case. Decided cure of tic-doloreux, a case coming nearer home to Mr. Hope than he had the remotest idea. He will of course do me the justice to make it known.

I should have refrained from thus appearing in public. Mr. Hope has asked for this, and beg indulgence for occupying such space in your valuable columns. Begging an early insertion,

I remain, sir,
Your's respectfully.
WM. G. SMITH, jun.

P.S. I would recommend Mr. Hope to peruse Rev. Chauncey Hare Townshend's facts on Mesmerism; Animal Magnetism, by De Teste, and a few other trifles of the same nature, his student mind would cull some "little information."

ADMISSION

MESMERISM.

MESSRS

M. L. SHARPE

AND

H. MARSHALL

WILL DELIVER

FOUR LECTURES

On the above Subject at the

ANGEL INN, ISLINGTON,

On the following Evenings:

MONDAY, July 1.

THURSDAY, - 4.

MONDAY, - - 8.

THURSDAY, - 11.

Each Lecture will be illustrated by

EXPERIMENTS.

To commence at Eight o'Clock. Admission, One Shilling.

de natural rebie[illegible] ow dis de scorse in de words ob a great Poet—" He who happiness [illegible] snare ,"[illegible]
shell out de Tin.

* This is asserted as a fact by the craft.

A BLACK LECTURE ON MESMERISM.

Nº 2. TO BE CONTINUED



" Natur and Naturs Laws lay hid in night,
ME Lectar to de blacks—and all was light."

BRODER NIGGARS, me berry sorry on de las 'casion when I delibber lectar on Nalagy to see you *cut Duck* and run as if de debil at you heel; an why, for I wonder *he* why to git out before Sambo cum wid de plate for de collection—shame on you, you shabby shufflin niggars, what for you tink genlem gib lecture to lighten you poor black fool? to git de money to be sure;—but me see som ob you look berry pale, so me shall say no more as me spose you sorry for be sich "dam cheat"—

Messmerism my frens was imwented for de benifit of some poor dockers, an was called *Animal Maggitism*, but dey made such a MESS ob it, dat it now called MESS merism—berry good. Animal Maggitism was intend to draw de pains out ob pipple's bones (an money out ob der pocket) an was a berry good draw; now my frens me shall jist mention a fac dat occur to a fren ob mine an will show how berry dangrous it is to hab anyting to do wid magnits: one day my fren was obserbing de smobness ob de magnit, an rub him hand ober it seberal times; now mark de konsikens—when he go out he pass a shop whar *saw* hang up for sell, when all at once out go he arms, strait afore him an drag him arter fast as he legs could go till he hands run bang up agin de saw, an dere dey stuck fast—he try an he try to git him hans off but dey no cum, he pull an he tug but debil a bit dey move, no no, de saw stick to him like bad name; well my frens, what could de poor niggar do his hands no cum of (an nobody look) so he bliged *to take de saw home wid him.* Now it jist de same wid de white pipple who lecter on Messmerism, dey so used to hand de magnits dat der fingers always hitch to fix on ebery ting widin reach 'specially *money*—now me shall show de way de white pipple mess-meris; when dey goin to lecture dey git big, fat stupid feller (ip he hab stoppige in de head so much de bettar) an gib him lot ob eat an drink, cram him full as tick, if he berry obstinet an no sleepy dey drop *lilly ladnum* in him beer, an when he git sleepy dey take him in de lectar room an sit him in chair an begin mobing der hand up an down afore him 'till he go fast asleep, but dey bliged to be berry quick cos somtime de man go to sleep *before dey begin*—well my frens, a lilly while ago dey mess-merise a man in Englan dat hab bad leg, and while he under *de influenc* as dey call it, dey cut de bad leg off an him no noting about it* an when he wake up him walk home WIDOUT IT—what you tink ob dat?—me obserbed before dat messmerism an maggitism was de same sort ob ting—an me may also add Gal wanism and *traction*, ob which der is tu or tre sorts belong to de same family—dus you see when de niggar run arter de *gals* dat's calld *Gal wanism* and is cause by de natural traction ob BODIES for one anoder, an when he marry de gal dey say he Gal wanised, and me can tell you it berry bad ting to be gal wanised too much—me know poor niggar mary *gal* an she gib him good drubbin; dat's wat dey call a *Gal wanick battery.* Me now come to *traction*, fus der is *Positib* traction, den der is simple traction, *compound traction* an *negatib.* Fus me shall begin wid POSITIB traction, dis my frens is cased by *gold*, gold draw ebery body arter it, kings an poor pipple, he niggar and she niggar, up hill an down dale, frue tick an tin, somtim it draws us bang frue de *Law*, oder time it drag us slap up agin our konshince; but me can tell you dat ib eber you git nock on de konshience frue cutting arter de gold *you'll nebber git rid ob de bruise*—me now come to *simple 'traction* when you drawn arter someting, an der's noting to be got by it dat *simple* traction—*berry simple*, spose you run arter pretty gal and she no hab noting to say for you, dat simple traction, an spose she hab lub for you an noting *else* an you marry an hab lilly Niggar how you git harmony and rice for fill der lilly black bellies, an you no hab de TIN, no, no it all simple Traction.

Me now cum to *Negatib* traction, an dat is "dam ugly old she niggar" dat negatib traction an no gammon: de nex is *Compoun* traction whis me shall 'splain in two differen ways—fus when a man compoun wid he creditors, dat *draw* dem togeder an is call compoun traction—an agin—when ugly old woman hab lots ob blunt, dat compoun traction too—kase de Gold Positib traction, an de ugly mug is Negatib, an bof togeder is Compoun. Now my frens me tink me splain de differen sort ob tractions berry clear an hope you all unerstan, me shall now endeber to 'splain de laws ob *grabitation;* you see my frens dat de word *grabitation* is deribe from de Latin word *grab*, to *take*, an as de earf draw eberyting to one pint (like big blister) it spose to take eberyting, an dats de reason it call *grabitation*, it also call *traction ob grabitation*, an me shall tell you how it discobered—you see my frens der was a white niggar dey call massa NEWTON he sit in him garden one day an see cokernut fall off de tree, ah—ah—Missa Coker, he say, what for you fall *down* why you no go up? den he tink and tink, at las him say de earf draw you down by traction ob grabitation, an dat is foun to be de case; now me spose some ob you hab notice dat old pipple bend der body down towards de earf when dey weak, dat owin to de traction ob de earf, an as dey git weaker an weaker de earf draw an draw, till at last dey die an it draw em bang into de ground, an dats what dey call de *dead leble*, and when you knock down a niggar flat on de groun dat calld de natural leble. Me shall now finis de scorse in de words ob a great Poet—"He who happiness would win must share it,"—so shell out de Tin.

* This is asserted as a fact by the craft.

Mesmerism.

TO THE INHABITANTS OF CHATHAM

MR. RUMBALL

Feels called upon to notice a Bill issued by "the Mesmerists of Maidstone, declining to meet him in discussion on Monday evening, because," as they aver, "he refused to accede to their terms;" which were "that he should meet Mr. INWARDS in public discussion, on the truths of Mesmerism; the proceeds *(after the expenses were paid)* to be given to two Societies, the one to be chosen by Mr. RUMBALL, the other, the Temperance Society," by which it is evidently meant to impart an unworthy colour to the refusal. It was sufficiently cool in a body of strangers, to call upon a professional man to give up his time and labour for nothing; but it assumes a worse complexion, when the very words of truth are made to promulgate a defamatory falsehood.—The message was delivered to Mr. RUMBALL, at about eleven o'clock at night, in the Billiard Room, and an *immediate* answer was requested; he had therefore no opportunity for writing; he replied that "he had no objection to meet Mr. INWARDS any day next week, but that in order to do so effectually, he must have one or two individuals from London, at an expense of four or five pounds; *this he did not feel called upon to pay out of his own pocket.*" The Bills of the Mesmerisers leave it to be inferred that necessary expenses of this kind were to have been included; some of the Mesmerisers distinctly say that they were; and yet five days elapsed before Mr. RUMBALL announced his Lecture, and his objection was allowed to stand; had he wrongly interpreted the message, there was ample time to set him right. Expenses on such an occasion mean room, printing, &c. and nothing more was proffered.

The intention of the circular is evident and quite in keeping with another, emanating from the same body, announcing a Lecture, in opposition to Mr. R. upon an evening when it was well *known* he could not be present, to defend himself.

THE MESMERISERS OF MAIDSTONE

Could not expect that a Gentleman would meet them, upon any terms, after the wilful evasions contained in their hand-bills.

They never proposed to pay a single shilling of the expenses Mr. RUMBALL might incur; he neither wished nor asked for any thing for himself, but did not "feel called upon to pay four or five pounds, out of his own pocket;" this they left him to consider he must do.

Chatham, June 13th, 1843.

ANIMAL MAGNETISM!

From the great interest and excitement occasioned by the late case of MESMERISM at DEPTFORD, and the subsequent demonstrations by Mr. VERNON and others, a few Persons deeply solicitous for a further investigation of this important Phenomena, have been induced to convene a Private Meeting, to be held at the Practice-Room of the "SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY," Hyde Vale, Greenwich, on WEDNESDAY Evening, February the 7th, 1844

Messrs. TAYLOR & HAGLEY will introduce Patients in illustration of the various Phenomena of Mesmeric-Coma;—Artificial Lock-Jaw;—Catalepsy;—Sympathy of Taste;—Vital Attraction;—Effect of Metals;—Phreno-Mesmerism, or the exciting of the Phrenological Organs;—and if possible, to produce effects, from Persons taken from the Company.

Mr. W. G. SMITH has kindly consented to MESMERISE the Lad, JAMES COOK, on this occasion.

The CHAIR to be taken at 7 o'Clock precisely.

Cards of Admission Six-pence each;—

May be obtained of Messrs. CARPENTER, London Street, Greenwich; Mr. W. G. SMITH, No. 2, Deptford Bridge; Mr. TAYLOR, No. 12, Duke Street, London Bridge; and at the above Room on Monday Evening, between the Hours of 8 and 9 o'Clock, or by producing this Circular at the Door, on the Evening of Meeting.

CROSBY-HALL
LITERARY & SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION.

The Members and the Public are respectfully informed, that on
FRIDAY the 15th, & FRIDAY the 22nd of MARCH, 1844,

Two Lectures
ON
MESMERISM
WILL BE DELIVERED BY
H. BROOKES, ESQ.
ILLUSTRATED BY EXPERIMENTS,
Showing the Sleep, Sleep-waking, Catalepsy, Phreno-Mesmerism, &c.

SYLLABUS.

LECTURE I.

Introduction—Mesmerism a Science—Definition—Effects necessarily variable—Sleep not essential—Classification of Phenomena—First stage, or half sleep—Second stage, or perfect coma—Consciousness—Memory—Sleep-waking, or double consciousness—Occasional transference of senses, or clairvoyance—Analogous phenomena resulting from disease—Of the utility of Mesmerism in surgical operations, and as a curative agency in the treatment of epilepsy, hysteria, paralysis, catalepsy, rheumatism, tooth-ache, head-ache, deafness, palpitation, insanity, and in promoting natural sleep—Cases—Experiments.

LECTURE II.

Peculiar phenomena arising from the relation established between the two nervous systems, viz. Mesmeric relation—Attraction—Catalepsy—Community of sensation—Phreno-Mesmerism—Introvision, or perception of their own internal organism, and its probable changes—Perception of disease and its remedies in others—Of the influence of metallic substances, &c.—Experiments.

To commence at 8 o'Clock.

Admission 1*s. each;*

Members of the Institution are entitled to a Double Ticket, admitting themselves and a Friend, at 1s. 6d. each. Tickets to be had at the Institution

Extract from Report of the Royal Academy of Medicine, Paris, 1831.

"Considered as a cause of certain Physiological Phenomena, or as a Therapeutic remedy Mesmerism ought to be allowed a place within the circle of the Medical Sciences."

Extract from the Opinion of Mr. Chenevix, F.R.S., *of London.*

"It would not disgrace the greatest man whom England ever produced, to attempt an experiment or two, upon a doctrine which Hufeland, Jussieu, Cuvier, Ampere, and La Place believed. Surely, what great men believe, ordinary men may try."

MESMERISM—A DECEPTION!!!

On WEDNESDAY EVENING, APRIL 10th, 1844,

A LECTURE

WILL BE DELIVERED AT

THE MARYLEBONE LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION,

17, EDWARDS STREET, PORTMAN SQUARE,

BY

T. S. BLACKWELL, ESQ.

On the supposed proofs and consequent arguments given of the existence of a peculiar power called Mesmeric Power, and actual proofs which exist supplying clear, indisputable, overwhelming evidence of the non-existence of any such power, and of the non-production of any phenomena the effect of such a power.

Mr. B. will show clearly, by experiment, that Mesmerism can be nothing but deception.

Also several of the experiments exhibited at the above Institution by Mr. VERNON, will be performed by Gentlemen in the KNOWN natural state; and the whole of his experiments, with many of the experiments exhibited by other Mesmerists, will be fully accounted for.

The merit of the opinions of Drs. Elliottson, Culverwell, and others, will be briefly considered.

The Lecture will commence at 8 o'clock.

Tickets to be had at the Institution, One Shilling each.

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EASTERN

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION,

HACKNEY ROAD.

W. BROOKES, Esq.

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have Convinced so many of the Truth of

MESMERISM,

HAS ENGAGED TO DELIVER A COURSE OF

FOUR LECTURES

On the above Interesting Subject; to commence

On THURSDAY, May 2nd,

AND

Three Following THURSDAYS,

Viz:---MAY 9th, 16th, & 23rd, 1844;

TO BE ILLUSTRATED

BY EXPERIMENTS,

EXHIBITING

SLEEP, SLEEP-WAKING, CATALEPSY, &c.

Cards of Admission, 1s. each,

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LECTURES

WILL BE

DELIVERED EVERY EVENING,

On the Philosophy & Practice of

MESMERISM,

BY

H. BROOKES, ESQ.

AT THE

LECTURE HALL, 57, PALL MALL, WEST,

Commencing on MONDAY, May 13th, 1844,

ILLUSTRATED BY EXPERIMENTS,

Exhibiting the interesting phenomena of the Mesmeric Ship, Catalepsy, Sleep-Waking, Phreno-Mesmerism, Clairvoyance, &c.

TO COMMENCE AT HALF-PAST EIGHT EACH EVENING.

Admission, 1s.—Reserved Seats, 2s.

Lecture I.—Monday.

Introduction.—Is Mesmerism a Science?—Specific Agency—Phenomena necessarily variable—Sleep not an essential consequence—Classification of Phenomena—First stage, or Half sleep—Characteristics—Second stage, or perfect coma—Characteristics—Insensibility—loss of Consciousness and Memory.

II.—Tuesday.

Third stage, or Sleep-waking—Characteristics—Double, or Changed Consciousness—Moto and Sensitive powers—Mesmeric relation—Occasional transference of Senses—Vision without the eyes, &c.—Cases—Analogous phenomena, arising in diseased states of nervous system—Cases—Distinctive Characteristics.

III.—Wednesday.

Peculiar phenomena, arising from the relations established between the Nervous systems of operator and patient, viz.: Mesmeric Attraction—Catalepsy—Perception of the Sensations, Thoughts, and volitions of operator—Mental Voyages, &c.

IV.—Thursday.

Phreno-mesmerism; what it is, and what it is not—Ordinary manifestations—The newly discovered Organs of Dr. Buchanan—Sunderland and Hale—Fallacies of Phreno-mesmerism—Sources of Fallacy.

V.—Friday.

Intro-vision, or perception of their own internal organism, and probable changes—Cases—Perception and Diagnosis of disease in others—Prescriptive of appropriate remedies—Cases—Perception of Metallic Influences—Ultra-vision.

VI.—Saturday.

Of the utility of Mesmerism in Surgical operations—Cases and remarks—Of its curative efficacy in the treatment of epilepsy, hysteria, paralysis, rheumatism, tic douloureux, head-ache, deafness, palpitation, and insanity—Of its efficacy in promoting sound natural sleep—Cases.

Ward, Printer, 15, Maiden-lane, Covent-garden.

MESMERISM.

Animal Magnetism,

WITH

ILLUSTRATIVE CASES,

Proving the Phenomena of

CLAIRVOYANCE.

J. W. Vernon, Esq.

WILL DELIVER A

LECTURE

AT THE

PUBLIC ROOMS, UXBRIDGE,

On Thursday Next, May 23rd, 1844,

At EIGHT o'Clock precisely.

"It would not disgrace the greatest man whom England ever produced, to attempt an experiment or two upon a doctrine which HUFELAND, JUSSIEU, CUVIER, AMPERE, and LA PLACE believed. Surely, what great men believe, ordinary men may try."

CHENEVIX.

SYLLABUS. The Phenomena of Clairvoyance, or Lucid Somnambulism — Cases of reading, and playing Cards, and distinguishing objects independent of the ordinary visual means—Intuition—Community of thought—Prevision—The facts proved—Rationale of the Phenomena.

Admittance, One Shilling. Reserved Seats, 1*s.* 6*d. Tickets may be had at the Rooms, and at Mr. Lake's Printing Office, Uxbridge.*

[T. M. Lake, Printer, Uxbridge.]

LECTURES ON MESMERISM
AND
CLAIRVOYANCE.

HORTICULTURAL ROOMS, TOP OF PARK-STREET, BRISTOL.

Dr. OWENS
(Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, England) and

Mr. W. J. VERNON
(Of the Institute of Mesmerism & Phrenology, London)

WILL DELIVER

MORNING LECTURES
ON

WEDNESDAY, Nov. 13, THURSDAY, Nov. 14, FRIDAY, Nov. 15.

Doors open at Half-past ONE, and to commence at TWO o'clock precisely.

1844

AND

EVENING LECTURES,
ON

WEDNESDAY, Nov. 13, THURSDAY, Nov. 14, and FRIDAY, Nov. 15.

Doors open at Half-past 7, to commence at 8 o'clock precisely,

ILLUSTRATED BY AN INTERESTING SERIES OF EXPERIMENTS,

Shewing the Stages of Sleep, Catalepsy, Community of Taste, Power of Attraction, Insensibility to Pain, and PHRENO-MESMERISM;

AND ALSO THE

CELEBRATED CLAIRVOYANTE,

FROM THE INSTITUTE, who will read any Book produced from the Audience, the eyes being closed; prove the fact of Mental Travelling; the lowering and raising the Pulse; and who, although only a Child, will carry with ease the heaviest Person present.

☞ **MEDICAL MEN are invited to test this case, by closing the Eyes by any fair means.**

"This is true, though opposed to Philosophy of all ages."

ADMISSION, TWO SHILLINGS.——BACK SEATS, ONE SHILLING.

☞ *The Nobility and Gentry are informed, that the Clairvoyante will attend, on due notice, Private Séances at their Residences. Terms may be known on application to Dr. OWENS, at the Printer's, or Rooms.*

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Mesmerism, EXPOSED.

HAVING EXAMINED ALL THE BEST CASES AND REPORTS,

MR. RUMBALL

WILL GIVE

ONE LECTURE

UPON

MESMERISM,

DEMONSTRATING ITS FALLACY,

ON

TUESDAY, DEC. 17,

IN THE INSTITUTE, CHELMSFORD.

ADMISSION, 1s.,—(RESERVED SEATS, 1s. 6d.,)—GALLERY, 6d.

He will exhibit and explain all the Phenomena of Clairvoyance, Phreno-Mesmerism without contact, Rigidity, Somnambulism, Attraction, Community of Taste, &c. &c. and particularly investigate its supposed influence upon disease, as exhibited in operation, and attested by Miss Martineau.

***** The Lecture to commence at EIGHT precisely.**

A. COPLAND, PRINTER, HIGH-STREET, CHELMSFORD.

1844

Forces July. 13. 1844.

MR. PURLAND'S LETTER.

OURSELVES VERSUS THE MESMERISTS.

We admire the candour of Mr. Purland, though we cannot agree with his opinions, and certainly question his discretion in adding his name to the list of those whom half the world consider visionary enthusiasts. As, however, he has thought it necessary to vindicate the gentle art and the professor he has taken under his wing, at the expense of his own consistency and honesty, we feel bound to answer his letter *seriatim*.

That we have no *practical* acquaintance with the subject of mesmerism we candidly allow, and consider that this very circumstance renders us more capable of forming a correct opinion of the experiments of others; for while the operators, anxious for the success of their experiments, see everything through a false medium, and are distracted by hopes of success on the one hand, and then fears of failure on the other, we, having no theories to support and anxious only for the elucidation of truth, look on with the most perfect calmness, if not indifference.

Would our correspondent assume that no one should criticise a picture unless he could paint one, or that it is necessary to be a Hadyn or a Mozart, to form a correct judgment of any given piece of music; or, to give an example more german to the matter, that we could not *understand* the interesting experiments on electricity or galvanism unless we were adepts in the use of the battery.

The professors of the art of mesmerism have challenged the attention of the public to a set of experiments, on the success of which (unless the lecturers are a set of charlatans and do not understand their subject) the art must either stand or fall. A new theory, exercising the important influence animal magnetism is said to do on the animal economy, is not to be established by a few bare and isolated successes, that rather form exceptions to the general laws of nature, than tend to establish a new code.

Assuming, then, that it does not require a practical acquaintance with mesmerism to understand whether its experiments fail or succeed, we shall proceed to speak of clairvoyance, one of the most important of the phenomena, and one that makes too heavy demands on our credulity to be received on light evidence; certainly not in direct contradiction to every kind of failure; and we will proceed to enquire how this power has been established by the exhibition of Mr. Vernon, with whom our correspondent accuses us of dealing unfairly.

Mr. Vernon challenges our observations by bringing forward a young lady—no new patient, not one of whose capability of receiving the mesmeric influence he is in doubt, but one who is a practised hand, who has rehearsed the part over and over again—and yet, when her powers of clairvoyance are subjected to a strict, but perfectly fair test, they fail in most cases, and perfectly succeed in no one instance. Our correspondent says that he has seen the same young lady do wonders in this way; that he has seen her read, (her eyes being so perfectly bandaged that she could not see) the book being placed on the lecturer's head and her forehead against his chest. We doubt not his word—we believe that he *thinks* she did so, and when we *see* the same thing fairly and unequivocally done, we will believe it too; but till then, painful as it is to lie under the strictures of our correspondent, we shall continue to doubt the existence of a power, the exhibition of which, in every instance, as far as our observations have gone, has signally failed.

To speak of the lecture at the Mechanics' Institution, where there was neither noise or confusion, where the lecturer was certainly not forced to attempt one iota more than he had volunteered to do, can Mr. Vernon, or our correspondent, point out one *instance* of even questionable success; and it is rather too much that he should accuse us of unfairness, because we are are not convinced by unsuccesssful experiments.

We are perfectly ready to attach a *proper* degree of importance to the written authorities in favour of mesmerism; but at the same time we cannot conceal from ourselves that the highest intellect, having a particular hypothesis to support, may see things through a false medium; and that its evidence must consequently be received with some degree of caution, while people will always be found ready, from interest or some other motive, to assist in deceptions that command a certain degree of notoriety.

Our correspondent complains of the manner in which the audience at the Adelaide Gallery interfered with the course of Mr. Vernon's proceedings, and asks whether Mr. Brand or Mr. Farraday would submit to such interference; there can, however, be but little parallel between the cases. Chemistry is founded on too firm a base to be affected by the failure or success of any practical experiments—mesmerism, on the contrary, can only be established by the most ample success.

We certainly are at present sceptical as to its truth, but we disclaim any prejudice, except a prejudice in favour of common sense and against humbug. Prove by a set of well regulated experiments (and we will allow for unavoidable failures) the truth of the art, and we shall be among its most strenuous advocates, but we can accept no secondhand evidence, however high and intellectual its source.

THE CRITIC,

And Journal of Literature.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1844.

THE CRITIC belongs to the new generation; it will endeavour to become the exponent of the spirit and the philosophy of the momentous *present*, and to rally round it the *young* heart and hopes of the country.—*Address*, Nov. 1st, 1844.

PRINCIPLES AND POLICY OF YOUNG ENGLAND.

WE regret that an accident has prevented the insertion of the continuation of the series of articles on the Principles and Policy of Young England. It will appear in our next.

TO READERS.

WE continue to receive, from all parts of the country, urgent entreaties to adopt at once the ultimate design of THE CRITIC, and publish it weekly from the commencement of the new year.

We are well aware that until this be done, so much has habit accustomed our countryfolk to the hebdomadal appearance of a journal, THE CRITIC will not obtain credit for anything like the extent or influential character of the circulation it actually enjoys. The advertisement columns prove this. Although they are improving, they do not exhibit a tenth part of the array to which their great value as an advertising medium entitles them, while journals, with circulations less in number and extent, and vastly less in influence, are selected by advertisers. This is no doubt in part owing to the stern and unflinching independence which THE CRITIC has maintained in all its reviews; indeed, we know of two or three who did once send us their advertisements, who have withdrawn them because, acting upon the principle THE CRITIC is endeavouring to maintain, we honestly expressed disapproval of some of their publications; but it is also partly the result of the fortnightly publication, which is unusual, and therefore looked upon with suspicion.

But recognizing all the undeniable advantages of the desired change, prudence counsels caution. As its early friends are aware, THE CRITIC was not established for any purposes of profit. It is a labour of love with all engaged in it, and we promised from the beginning that whatever the favour of friends might enable it, through extended circulation and advertisements, to return, should be expended in its improvement, even to the concentration upon its pages of the best writers money could procure; and so far the promise has been fulfilled, for improvement *has* kept pace with circulation, or rather has preceded it.

But though all are willing to give their labour, and we look for no profit, we are loth to incur any considerable loss. At present, the expenses are nearly, but not quite repaid by the proceeds. But a weekly publication would more than double those expenses, because the increased toil would require more assistance than could be procured without payment. It is moreover a question whether the present subscribers would all consent to double cost, even though it were to reap double advantages, and is there a probability of sufficient new supporters to compensate for the possible loss of some old ones? These are serious considerations, which make us pause and wait till the subscribers have increased to a point that shall permit the retirement of a few, without affecting the scheme.

It has been suggested to us that we might secure every present subscriber and probably find a much larger class of readers if we were to bring out THE CRITIC weekly, reducing its pages to twenty-four, and its price to *fourpence* occasionally, as does the *Athenæum*, giving the present number of pages when advertisements required it. This, it is urged, would add but a trifle to the present cost, and every reader would have the pleasure of its weekly receipt according to the custom of other journals, while enlarged space would be afforded for the more perfect accomplishment of the design of THE CRITIC, which is to record whatever belongs to British and Foreign Literature and Art. This, we believe, is the only practicable mode of acceding to the pressing requests of our subscribers; but this we cannot venture upon without further deliberation. Still there would be a very great increase of expenses, and still the query returns, Would the circulation or the advertisements, or both, be thereby so increased as to meet the added cost?

THE CRITIC is largely taken by the Booksellers throughout the country. Might we prefer a request to such of them as have experience, and who feel interested in the fortunes of THE CRITIC, to inform us candidly, by letter, what in their opinion would be the effect upon its circulation of reducing the price of THE CRITIC to *fourpence*, and publishing it weekly?

If when we have thus ascertained the opinions of the best judges we should find them to be in favour of the proposition, we will accede to the wishes so numerously expressed. But if there be a doubt, we shall be content to wait until the subscribers are numerous enough to permit the alteration to be made with impunity.

MISS MARTINEAU ON MESMERISM.

THE *Athenæum*, of Nov. 30, contained a continuation of Miss MARTINEAU's accounts of her experiences in Mesmerism. But that second letter is wholly devoted to the description of another case which occurred in the same house.

It was that of a girl, aged about nineteen, to whose truthful character Miss MARTINEAU bears testimony. Mesmerism was employed with her to relieve a disorder of the eyes; but it exhibited some phenomena, new and startling to Miss MARTINEAU, and probably to many of our readers, but familiar to all who have enjoyed an opportunity of seeing many mesmeric patients.

On the first trial she was thrown into the sleep in five minutes. She was mesmerised very frequently afterwards, and with manifest benefit to her health.

Unlike the three cases recorded in this and the last CRITIC, as having fallen under the personal cognizance of the Editor within the circle of his own family, this patient had no recollection of the occurrences during the trance. But in other respects she exhibited much the same phenomena, especially that of naming the time at which she should wake. Miss M. remarks:—

> It is a memorable moment when one first hears the monosyllable, which tells that the true mesmeric trance has begun. "Are you asleep?" "Yes." It is crossing the threshold of a new region of observation of human nature. Then it goes." "How long shall you sleep?" "Half an hour." "Shall you wake of yourself, or shall I wake you?" "I shall wake of myself." And so she did to a second—no clock or watch being near, but the watch in my hand. For some weeks she could always see the time, and foretell her own waking; but of late, in manifesting some new capabilities, she has lost much of this.
>
> Nothing can induce her to say a word on a matter she is not perfectly sure of. She solemnly shakes her head, saying, "I won't guess:—it won't do to guess," And sometimes, appealingly, "I would tell you if I could." "I'll try to see." "I'll do all I can," &c. When sure of her point, nothing can move her from her declarations. Night after night, week after week, she sticks to her decisions, strangely enough sometimes, as it appears to us; but we are not aware of her ever yet having been mistaken on any point on which she has declared herself.
>
> She exhibited another extraordinary faculty, which so many patients have displayed.
>
> It soon became evident that one of her strongest powers was

the discernment of disease, its condition and remedies. She entered up her own case first, prescribing for herself very fluently. It was curious to see, on her awaking, the deference and obedience with which she received from us the prescriptions with which she herself had just furnished us. They succeeded; and so did similar efforts on my behalf. I cannot here detail the wonderful accuracy with which she related, without any possible knowledge of my life ten and twenty years ago, the circumstances of medical treatment for five years, and the operation of mesmerism upon it of late. One little fact will serve our present purpose better. Soon after she was first mesmerised, I was undergoing my final severance from opiates—a serious matter to one who had depended so long and so desperately upon them. As I have said, I got through the day pretty well; but the nights were intolerable, from pain and nervous irritations, which made it impossible to rest for two minutes together. After four such nights, I believe my mesmerist's fortitude and my own would have given way together, and we should have brought the laudanum bottle to light again, but for the bright idea, "let us ask for *J.*!" She said at once what my sufferings had been, and declared that I should sleep more and more by degrees, if I took (what was so contrary to her own ordinary ideas of what is right and rational as to mind) *six* at dinner, and half a wine-glass full of brandy-and-water at night. I refused the prescription, till reminded—"Remember, she has never been wrong." I obeyed; the fact being kept secret between us two, in order to try, every evening, *J.*'s knowledge and opinion. She always spoke and advised, in a confident familiarity with incidents known only to us two, and carried me steadily through the struggle. I lost my miseries, and recovered my sleep, night by night, till, at the end of the week, I was quite well, without stimulant or sedative.

Miss Martineau throws out a suggestion, which we once intimated in The Critic, as explanatory of *clairvoyance*, namely, that the patient reads the mind of the person with whom he is *en rapport* precisely as he *tastes* and *feels* through him. We are still, in spite of some apparently contradictory facts, inclined to this view.

The narrative concludes with a remarkable instance of *clairvoyance*, which we extract, that our readers may compare it with the case we have recorded in another column. There is a striking similarity between the description given by both patients of the shape in which the knowledge comes to them.

The next evening (Monday, Oct. 14), *J.* did not come up as usual to our séance. There was affliction in the household. An aunt of *J.*'s, Mrs. A. a good woman I have long known, lives in a cottage at the bottom of our garden. Mrs. A.'s son, *J.*'s cousin, was one of the crew of a vessel which was this evening reported to have been wrecked near Hull. This was all that was known, except that the owner was gone to Hull to see about it. *J.* was about to walk to Shields with a companion to inquire, but the night was so tempestuous, and it was so evident that no news could be obtained, that she was persuaded not to go. But she was too much disturbed to think of being mesmerised. Next morning there was no news. All day there were flying reports,—that all hands were lost—that all were saved—but nothing like what afterwards proved to be the truth. In the afternoon (no tidings having arrived) we went for a long drive, and took *J.* with us. She was with us, in another direction, till tea-time; and then, on our return, there were still no tidings; but Mrs. A. was gone to Shields to inquire, and if letters had come, she would bring the news in the evening. *J.* went out on an errand, while we were at tea,—no person in the place having then any means of knowing about the wreck; and on her return, she came straight up to us for her séance. Two gentlemen were with us that evening, one from America, the other from the neighbourhood. I may say here, that we note down if the sentence what *J.* says: and that on this evening there was the additional security of my American friend repeating to me, on the instant (on account of my deafness), every word as it fell.

J. was presently asleep, and her mesmerist, knowing the advantage of introducing subjects on which the mind had previously been excited, and how the inspiration follows the course of the affections, asked, as soon as the sleep was deep enough, "Can you tell us about the wreck?" *J.* tranquilly replied, "Oh! yes, they're all safe; but the ship is all to pieces."

"Were they saved in their boat?"

"No; that's all to pieces."

"How then?"

"A queer boat took them off; not their boat."

"Are you sure they are all safe?"

"Yes; all that were on board; but there was a boy killed. But I don't think it is my cousin."

"At the time of the wreck?"

"No; before the storm."

"How did it happen?"

"By a fall."

"Down the hatchways, or how?"

"No; he fell through the rigging, from the mast."

She presently observed, "My aunt is below, telling them all about it, and I shall hear it when I go down."

My cousin being a scientific from two houses, this "below" meant two stories lower in the next house.

She continued talking of other things for an hour longer, and before she awoke, the gentlemen were gone. After inquiring whether she was refreshed by her sleep, and whether she had dreamed ("No,") we desired her to let us know if she heard news of the wreck; and she promised, in all simplicity, that she would. In another quarter of an hour, up she came, all animation, to tell us that her cousin and all the crew were safe, her aunt having returned from Shields with the news. The wreck had occurred between Kinnaird and Gottenburgh, and the crew had been taken off by a fishing-boat, after two days spent on the wreck, their own boat having gone to pieces. She was turning away to leave the room, when she was asked—

"So all are saved—all who left the port?"

"No, ma'am," said she, "all who were on board at the time; but they had had an accident before—a boy fell from the mast, and was killed on the deck."

Besides having no doubt of the rectitude of the girl, we knew that she had not seen her aunt; the only person from whom tidings could have been obtained. But, to make all sure, I made an errand to the cottage the next morning, well knowing that the relieved mother would pour out her whole tale. My friend and I encouraged her; and she told us how she got the news, and when she brought it to Tynemouth—just as we knew before. "How glad they must have been to see you 'at ours,'" said I.

"O yes, ma'am:" and she declared my landlady's delight.

"And *J.*" said I.

"Ma'am, I did not see *J.*" said she, simply and rapidly, in her eagerness to tell. Then, presently—"They told me, ma'am, that *J.* was up stairs with you."

Two evenings afterwards *J.* was asked, when in the sleep, whether she knew what she related to us by seeing her aunt telling the people below? to which she replied, "No; I saw the place and the people themselves—like a vision."

Such was her own idea, whatever may be the conjectures of others.

The *Athenæum* of Saturday last continues the narrative of this case. It contains little that is new, or that is at all remarkable to those who have had any, even a slight experience of the phenomena of mesmerism, however it may surprise the public.

She remarked in her patient that the state of lucidity was not continuous; we have noted the same in all that we have seen. The similarity in some particulars between the hearing of this girl and that of the patient we have described in another part of this number is singular. She truly observes, and we hope all who study mesmerism will keep it in their memory:—

I have too little knowledge of mesmerism to be aware whether the more important powers of somnambulism and clairvoyance abide long in, or can be long exercised by, any individual. I have heard of several cases where the lucidity was lost after a rather short exercise; but in those cases there was room for a supposition of mismanagement. The temptation is strong to overwork a somnambule; and especially when the family of invalid relates to diseases, and sufferers are languishing on every side. The temptation is also strong to prescribe the conditions,—to settle what the somnambule shall or shall not see or do, in order to convince oneself or somebody else, or to gratify some desire for information on a particular subject. It is hard to say who was most to blame with regard to Alexis,—the exhibitor who exposed him to the hardship of unphilosophical requirements, or the visitors who knew so little how to conduct an inquiry into the powers of Nature, as to prescribe what her manifestations should be. The "failures" in such cases go for nothing, in the presence of one new manifestation. They merely indicate that there is no reply to impertinent questions. The successes and failures together teach that the business of inquirers is to wait upon Nature, to take what she gives, and make the best they can of it, and not disown her because they cannot get from her what they have predetermined.

Some of the dialogues with this patient, which Miss M. noted at the time, throw a glimmer of light upon the subject. We extract the most novel of her revelations.

When asked what the influence was, she said, "It is something which the mesmerizer throws from him; but I cannot say what." In reply to the query, "Do the minds of the mesmerist and the patient become one?" she responded, "Sometimes."

times, but not often." Is it then that they taste, feel, &c. the same things at the same mement?" "Yes."

And again, when asked how she sees things, she said:—

"I see them, not like dreams in common sleep,—but things out of other worlds; not the things themselves, but impressions of them. They come through my brain."

"Mesmerism composes the mind, and separates it from the common things of every day."

"Will it hurt your mesmerist?"

"It is good for her. It exercises some powers of body and mind, which would otherwise lie dormant. It gives her mind occupation, and leads her to search into things."

"Can the mind hear otherwise than by the ear?"

"Not naturally; but a deaf person can hear the mesmerist, when in the sleep; not any body else, however."

"How is it that you can see without your eyes?"

"Ah! that is a curious thing. I have not found it out yet."

And again—

"I have seen many places since I have been mesmerised; but they all go away when I awake. They are like a vision, not a common dream."

"How do you see these? Does the influence separate soul and body?"

"No: it sets the body to rest; exalts and elevates the thinking powers."

Although she would not or could not read with her eyes shut, she twice wrote when desired, and once when her eyes were bandaged she complained that it was so light she could not see.

The following experiment deserves to be extracted:—

One singular evidence of *rapport* between J. and her mesmerist I have witnessed under such unexceptionable circumstances as to be absolutely sure of it. When J. was dancing, and taking this room for a ball-room, she took her mesmerist for her partner, allowed herself to be conducted to a seat, &c. assuming a ball-room air, which was amusing enough in one with her eyes sealed up, as motionless as if they were never again to open. Being offered refreshment, she chose some mesmerised water, a glass of which was on the table, prepared for me. It seemed to exhilarate her, and she expressed great relish of the "refreshment." It struck us that we would try, another evening, whether her mesmerist's will could affect her sense of taste. In her absence, we agreed that the water should be silently willed to be sherry the next night. To make the experiment as clear as possible, the water was first offered to her, and a little of it drank as water. Then the rest was, while still in her hands, silently willed to be sherry; she drank it off—half a tumbler full—declared it very good; but, presently, that it made her tipsy. What was it? "Wine—white wine." And she became exceedingly merry and voluble, but refused to rise from her chair, or dance any more, or go down stairs, for she could not walk steady, and should fall and spoil her face, and moreover frighten them all below. I afterwards asked her mesmerist to let it be porter the next night. J. knew nothing of the porter, it seems, but called her refreshment "a nasty sort of beer."

And so does this, which is new to us in part:—

Not less curious is it to see her inextricable gripe of the steel snuffers, or the poker, detached by a silent touch of the steel with gold. When no force can wrench or draw the snuffers from her grasp, a gold pencil-case or a sovereign stealthily made to touch the point of the snuffers, causes the fingers to unclasp, and the hands to fall. We have often put a gold watch into her hands, and, when the gripe is firm, her mesmerist winds the gold chain round something of steel. In a minute or less occurs the relaxation of the fingers, and the watch is dropped into the hand held beneath. While grasping these metals she sometimes complains that they have burnt her.

It is singular that Miss MARTINEAU shonld not have tried the phrenological phenomena, which are among the most striking exhibitions of mesmerism, and have not failed in any case we have ever seen. We look upon these as the most valuable result of mesmerism, because they prove demonstratively the truth of phrenology, and, consequently, its manifold important consequences upon the welfare of mankind, and upon every thing connected with the human mind. Miss MARTINEAU'S remarks are as follow; and it is strange that so curious a testimony should not have led to further inquiry. Thus her letter concludes:—

I have said nothing of phrenology in connection with mesmerism, though it is thought by those who understand both better than I do, that they are hardly separable. I have no other reason for speaking of mesmerism by itself than that I am not qualified to give any facts or opinions on phrenological phenomena induced by mesmerism. The only fact I have witnessed (probably because we do not know how to look for evidence) in the course of our experiment was amusing enough, but too isolated to base any statement on. J. appeared one day to be thrown into a paroxysm of order, when that organ was the part mesmerized. She was almost in a frenzy of trouble that she could not make two pocket-handkerchiefs lie flat and measure the same size; and the passion with which she arranged everything that lay awry was such as is certainly never seen in any waking person. This fit of order was curious and striking as far it went; and this is all I am at present qualified to say.

We note that J. can tell nothing concerning any stranger; and that her insight appears clear in proportion as her affections are interested. We have tried her clairvoyance, by agreement with friends at a distance, strangers to her, and have failed, as we deserved. I hope we shall have the wisdom and self-command henceforth to prescribe nothing to a power so obscure, and, at present, beyond our dictation. We can summon and dismiss it, and may therefore contemplate it without fear. But we have no power over the nature of its manifestations. Our business, therefore, is humbly and patiently to wait for them: and, when obtained, diligently to use our reason in the study of them.

May we ask Miss MARTINEAU to read with care the cases we have recorded in this and the last CRITIC, and having tried similar experiments with her patient, inform the world if the results are similar. Thus only can the study of this "great new truth" be advanced.

THE CRITIC,

And Journal of Literature.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 1845.

THE CRITIC belongs to the new generation; it will endeavour to become the exponent of the spirit and the philosophy of the momentous *present*, and to rally round it the *young* heart and hopes of the country.—*Address*, Nov. 1st, 1844.

THE PRINCIPLES AND POLICY OF YOUNG ENGLAND.

WE trust that we have made sufficiently intelligible what are the *principles* of YOUNG ENGLAND; and that we have proved that they are not vague impressions, received without deliberation and maintained without reason, but solemn convictions, the result of observation and reflection, and which we are prepared to support by sober argument. Further, we have found it necessary more than once to repudiate many wild doctrines which have been palmed upon the public as those of YOUNG ENGLAND, and some that have been inconsiderately put forth by persons who certainly belong to our party, but for whose follies their party is not responsible. We must again entreat our readers to receive, as the principles and policy of YOUNG ENGLAND, such only as are deliberately propounded by its public organs, and we believe we are not arrogating too much importance if we say that THE CRITIC, as the first established of its periodicals, and from its office as a literary journal necessarily treating it in a loftier and more extended point of view than can a newspaper, which has to deal with the petty topics of party warfare, is entitled to be received as the best authority upon the subject of the principles and policy of YOUNG ENGLAND.

But we find it necessary still to impress upon the public that they must not associate the *party* of YOUNG ENGLAND with the particular views of the half-dozen members of Parliament to whom that title has been given. They are but a fraction of that great and growing party whose members are scattered over the whole face of the country. The little band in the Parliament belongs to us, and not we to them. THE CRITIC is not the representative of the precise views of any member of that able and gallant company, nor of some of the doctrines that appear to be held by all of them. THE CRITIC utters the voice of the YOUNG ENGLAND of the whole nation, and seeks not merely to echo, but to *form* opinion, to *develope* principles and a policy, and to *make* and *lead* a party upon definite principles to a definite end.

It is for this reason that hitherto we have laboured, and for some time to come must continue to labour, at the definition and development of the *principles* of YOUNG ENGLAND. We cannot expect the intelligent to enlist under our banner unless we can convince their reason that there has been error in the past, and that there is a probability at least that our views may open a happier prospect for the future. Vast is the difficulty of unsettling prejudices long cherished, and of leading the mind of a nation into new paths of thought; but, though gigantic, the enterprise is not hopeless. There is an inherent vitality in truth, which enables it to survive, though it fall neglected upon a barren rock, or be trampled under foot amid the scorn of crowded ways. Never is it scattered abroad in vain. It will slowly, but surely, strike its roots into the most ungenial soil; it fixes itself in the heart that was the most hardened against its coming; it grows secretly, silently; puts forth its leaves one by one; and even when its enemies are triumphing, as they believe, in its destruction, it bursts into flower, brings forth its fruit, and the world reaps the riches of its harvest.

So will it be with the truth which is the germ of the principles of YOUNG ENGLAND. We are content that it should bide its time, and willing to labour zealously and without weariness to scatter it abroad and tend its slow but certain progress.

VOL. II. No. 25.
NEW SERIES.—No. 11. VOL. I.

MISS MARTINEAU *versus* THE ATHENÆUM; THE ATHENÆUM *versus* MISS MARTINEAU.

AFTER reaping a rich harvest from the introduction of Miss MARTINEAU, the *Athenæum* very coolly turns round upon her and hisses her off the stage, with a sufficiently obvious insinuation that her patient, J. was an impostor, and herself more credulous than wise. Having made a good market of her for himself, our contemporary does his best to discredit her for any other uses.

This, however, is a matter between Miss MARTINEAU and the *Athenæum*. The lady is perfectly competent to protect herself. Her veracity and judgment are at stake, and, doubtless, she will do well and promptly whatever may be necessary to vindicate them, and our columns shall be at her service for such a purpose. But our present concern is to vindicate, not Miss MARTINEAU, but Mesmerism, from the attack of the *Athenæum*, and we proceed, without further comment, to answer, temperately, and by argument alone, the article of our contemporary.

The facts narrated by Miss MARTINEAU, and to which the *Athenæum* properly limits its review, are comprised in the two cases of herself and the girl whom she designates by the letter J.

To her own case we confess we are not inclined to attach any great importance. It is probable, but it is not and cannot be *proved*, that her cure was the result of mesmeric treatment. It *may* have proceeded from natural causes, or even from the cessation of medical treatment. We, who are convinced of the reality of the mesmeric influence, have neither doubt nor difficulty in ascribing the cure to that cause; but our conviction is not sufficient to satisfy a sceptic or even a seeker after truth. He has a right to ask for proofs, instead of probabilities; and these Miss MARTINEAU'S case certainly does not afford.

Nor, as a case of Mesmerism, has it much interest in itself. The influence, whatever it is, had but slight sway over her—not sufficient, indeed, to satisfy an observer that she was subject to it at all.

To believers, however, it was interesting as a description, by an observant and thoughtful patient, of her experiences of the effects of Mesmerism. But in this, and indeed in every other particular, the cases we have recorded in THE CRITIC, as having occurred in our own family circle, are infinitely more interesting and more curious than that of Miss MARTINEAU.

As she candidly observed in one of her letters, the interest of her own case was entirely absorbed in that of her patient, J.; and it is to this case that the *Athenæum* directs its main attack.

To persons unaccustomed to witness the phenomena of Mesmerism this case was doubtless a startling one; and it seems to have made a very great impression upon Miss MARTINEAU. They who have had any experience in Mesmerism will readily parallel it with many that have fallen under their own observation. Every phenomenon exhibited by J., with the exception of the *clairvoyance* displayed in the narrative of the shipwreck, was shewn by the patients whose cases we have introduced to our readers, and upon the strict veracity of which we stake the character of THE CRITIC.

On a subject of which as yet so little is known, we are loath to express even an opinion, or to question any fact asserted because it *appears* to be contrary to that which we are accustomed to deem the order of Nature. But we may be allowed to state the result of our own experience, and that certainly does *not* satisfy us of the existence of a *clairvoyance* extending to the perception of things occurring at a distance. We have never yet found a case of *clairvoyance* in which the patient could give information of any thing that was not known to the Mesmerizer, or some person *en rapport* with

him, and as yet we very much doubt whether the power extends beyond that strange sympathy, the existence of which is established beyond all doubt.

Our explanation of J.'s case would be this. In the mesmeric state the patients' perceptions are exalted beyond any thing of which, in our ordinary condition, we can form the slightest conception. They can hear sounds of coming footsteps long before they are audible to us, and perceive motions and feel influences which pass about us without becoming sensible to the brain in its usual state. At the time J. was relating the circumstances in her sleep above stairs, her aunt was narrating it in a room below. We have not the slightest doubt that J.'s quickened senses heard the tale as it was told in the other room, and that she forthwith repeated it. That the waves of sound extended so far, although they could produce no effect upon our organs in their ordinary state, will not be denied, nor is it without the bounds of reasonable probability that there should be such an extraordinary state of the senses, such an *exaltation* of their powers, as should enable them to perceive the waves of sound usually imperceptible. Nay, is it not of daily occurrence in fevers and nervous disorders? Will not the Indian hunter, from practice, recognize the tramp of footsteps so distant that the European listens for them in vain?

We turn now to the arguments of the *Athenæum*. Admitting the very great importance to society, that it should be ascertained whether Mesmerism be true or not, our contemporary asks what is included under the title of Mesmerism? for its supporters are not agreed either as to the phenomena or the theory of their science. It is true that experiment has not determined all the facts, and few have yet ventured to broach any theory at all. But that is no evidence against it. So it is with all the branches of physiology. In which of them are physiologists agreed, either about the phenomena or in the theory? Is there, to this day, unity of assertion or of opinion upon the science of mind? Yet who but the Editor of the *Athenæum* would dream of denying the existence of the science on this account: or why should more precision be required to secure for Mesmerism a fair investigation, than for the phenomena of life, of generation, of the nerves, of the mind, about which we are quite as ignorant and unsettled as we are on the subject of Mesmerism? In all, we see only certain phenomena; upon these even observers differ, the theories about them are conflicting, and in fact we know only that we see them, and we are entirely unable to trace their causes, or the *modus operandi* of nature.

This objection to Mesmerism, therefore, falls to the ground.

Having disposed of Miss MARTINEAU'S personal experiences, in which, we freely admit, there is nothing to satisfy a sceptic, the Reviewer attacks the case of J.; and here mark his unfairness. He says,

> We lay aside all the minor phenomena, many of which are really too trifling to be seriously considered, and come at once to the case of *clairvoyance*.

The *Athenæum* in this plays the part of a clever advocate, but not that of an earnest seeker after truth. Omitting all the strong, he snatches at the weak, points of the case on the other side; and, having answered one, hopes it will be assumed that he has answered all. We have already stated our explanation of the fact, which doubtless Miss MARTINEAU has described with strict accuracy, and that explanation is consistent both with the known laws of nature and the honesty of the patient.

But even if the *clairvoyance* be disposed of, either by the conjecture we have hazarded, or, after the fashion of the *Athenæum*, by charging the parties with a gross imposture, the case is not thus altogether overthrown. There yet remain to be accounted for, to be explained, or to be contradicted, the other phenomena described by Miss MARTINEAU. It is very convenient for the *Athenæum* to dismiss these with the remark that they are "really too trifling to be seriously considered." Such a mode of treating them relieves the editor from a difficulty, but it does not get rid of the fact. What! is the phenomenon of the sleep itself, thus artificially produced, *trifling?* Is the community of taste *trifling?* Is the reading of the mind of the Mesmerizer *trifling?* Is it *trifling* for an uneducated girl to make such answers as Miss MARTINEAU has reported from the lips of her patient? Is the catalepsy *trifling?* Are the phrenological phenomena *trifling?* The reviewer must have a strange notion of things if he deems these *trifling*. Any one of them, if true, should be sufficient to engage the studies of philosophers throughout the world; and yet all these the *Athenæum* dismisses in a sentence as "too trifling to be seriously considered."

After skipping these difficulties, it was easy enough for the reviewer to set aside all the reasonings of Miss MARTINEAU by the assertion that "the mesmeric phenomena" are not proved. That is the very question at issue. We assert that they *are* proved, the *Athenæum* asserts that they are not. What, in such case of contradictory assertion as to the existence or non-existence of a fact in nature, would be the obvious duty, nay, would be the anxious desire, of any person honestly seeking that the truth should be ascertained? Would it not be to institute a calm and careful investigation into the circumstances alleged, not by abstract reasoning upon their probability or improbability, but by actual experiment?

This rational course, however, the *Athenæum* not only declines, but it actually justifies a refusal to inquire. This it does by reference to the many popular delusions of past ages, testified by clouds of respectable witnesses at the time, though now exploded.

But from these facts we should deduce just the opposite conclusion. If so many persons have been deceived before, it seems to us but the more necessary that any novelty asserted by the testimony of many should undergo the most rigid scrutiny by the observant and reflecting. If the popular delusions of past ages—instead of being treated as the *Athenæum* would treat Mesmerism, with neglect by those most competent to investigate its claims—had been boldly taken in hand, and submitted to the crucible of actual experiment, they would never have wrought the mischiefs that resulted from their uncontradicted diffusion. If Mesmerism be a delusion, as the *Athenæum* asserts, it ought to be exposed and dissipated by the investigations of those most competent to subject it to the test of experiment. If, on the other hand, Mesmerism be true, the *Athenæum* itself will admit that to neglect it would be disgraceful to science and to our age. If the argument of the *Athenæum* be good for any thing, it would extend to the staying of the progress of all knowledge. We cannot understand what evidence would justify the investigation of any new discovery, if such as that in favour of Mesmerism be not held sufficient. If the same rule had been applied to any of the discoveries which are now held in veneration, what would have become of them? in what backward stage would science now have been? If, for instance, some *Athenæum* of those days had met HARVEY'S assertion that the blood circulated, or NEWTON'S assertion of the law of gravitation, or GALILEO'S assertion that the earth moved round the sun, with the same argument our *Athenæum* has applied to Mesmerism; conducting the colloquy after this fashion,—"It is false." "I, and hundreds who have examined it, say that it is true. I ask you to come and investigate it." "Oh, no; the world has been deluded before by things to which hundreds of persons have borne testimony."—We say, if such an argument had been admitted, these great discoveries must have perished with their authors.

The fallacy of the *Athenæum* lies in this: it confuses the claims of theories and facts. A theory is a conjecture which very frequently is incapable of proof, and therefore may be suffered to pass unexamined; but a fact is capable of certain proof or disproof. If it rest on the assertion of but a single individual, it is never quite unworthy of notice; if it be sustained by the evidence of many, it has a claim upon the attention and investigation of the philosopher.

Nor is the novelty or inexplicable aspect of any asserted fact in science a sufficient reason for disregarding it, more especially in animal physiology, of which our knowledge is as yet so limited that it is difficult to say how much we do know. It presents to our contemplation a great deal that is as inexplicable, and which, were it not daily passing before our eyes, we should deem as mysterious, as Mesmerism; yet we do not therefore deny the facts we cannot account for, nor refuse to investigate them because no satisfactory theory of them has been propounded.

The *Athenæum* justly remarks of the man of science, that "he is a calm observer—who collects phenomena which have been soberly noted by himself or other competent persons,

adding cautiously one to another, until he is enabled to deduce from the whole certain general laws. Such is the progress of science; its path is clear, open, and straightforward." We only ask our contemporary, and those who adopt his views, to apply to Mesmerism the principle he has so well set forth. We call upon him and them *not* to believe without experiment; *not* to let faith *precede* inquiry, but to set themselves calmly to investigate and note phenomena, and when this has been done fairly and fully, and *not before*, to pronounce an honest opinion whether those phenomena be realities or impostures. They judge us most unjustly who suppose that we desire any person to accept Mesmerism as an existing fact in nature upon any other testimony than that of their own senses, guided by their own good sense and reason. We ask them not to believe it because we believe it, nor to adopt any assertions of the experience of others, save as a stimulus to personal research. We complain only of those who, like the *Athenæum*, deny without examination, condemn without seeing, and refuse to investigate an alleged fact in nature, to which thousands bear testimony, because it does not assort with some foregone conclusions of their own. We repeat that such a course is unphilosophical, unwise, unworthy, and, instead of shewing self-confidence, is in fact the result of a cowardly fear lest that which they have denounced should possibly prove to be true, and their self-importance be shocked by the rebuke which would thus be given to their dogmatic denials.

That some such lurking consciousness of an untenable position haunts our contemporary is apparent from the following passage, with which he concludes his reply.

> Animal magnetism is a complex of many particulars,—first, of physiological statements, some of which, when stripped of their exaggerations, are curious, and may, perhaps, on further investigation, lead to an extension of our knowledge concerning the nervous system,—secondly, of a theory concerning the cause of these phenomena,—and lastly, of certain psychological statements. If the partisans of this boasted science had confined themselves to detailing their experiments concerning the first of these particulars, in a spirit of philosophy, with modesty and doubt, they would not have encountered hostility from any party; and even if their discovery had turned out a mare's nest, as we think it will, they would have lost no credit by the transaction. But coupling, as they have, their imputed facts with a theory, which every tyro in philosophy may perceive to be as yet no more than a rash and hasty generalization from a few imperfect observations,—and moreover, asking public credit for their psychological mysteries, which carry refutation on the very announcement,—we hold that every scientific man who regards his own character should keep aloof from them, and refrain from sanctioning, by direct participation in their proceedings, a transaction so likely to lead to mischievous consequences. If there exist sensible men who have a curiosity or a doubt as to the nature of the whole affair, it would be easy for them to conduct their experiments apart, and keep the results to themselves, until they shall have reduced them within the natural bounds of science, and rendered them intelligible and definite; but as yet, we hold that the magnetists have shewn no tokens of possessing a philosophical spirit, a cool judgment, or a critical knowledge of the nature of truth and its relations, which should remove them from the class of the Cagliostros, the Katerfeltos, or the emperors of all the conjurors,—or justify men of real science in affording them the co-operation they call for.

Here, then, we have a distinct admission that Mesmerism has *some* truth in it. The rational inference would be, that it was the duty of philosophers to ascertain, by inquiry, the extent of that truth. But no, says the *Athenæum*, many of its friends claim for it powers to which we can give no credit, and broach theories to which we cannot subscribe, and therefore, "every scientific man should keep aloof," and not trouble himself about that portion of it which is true. And so, according to this sapient counsellor, because some astronomers have questioned Newton's theory, and broached theories somewhat vague and extravagant, it is the duty of philosophers to "keep aloof from" astronomy. Verily a most easy method of burking all the sciences, for there is not one in which "*false facts*" and wild theories do not abound. It has been reserved for the *Athenæum* to make the grand discovery that the admitted truths of a science are not to be sanctioned by scientific men who regard their characters, because some partisans have coupled imputed facts with theories based upon hasty generalizations "from a few imperfect observations." Will the *Athenæum* inform us what science is without such partisans, such facts, and such theories?

But we have lingered too long over this irrational, unphilosophical, and illogical attack upon Mesmerism. We have been anxious only fully and fairly, and in the calm and reasoning tone that befits discussion, where truth is, or ought to be, the single object of the parties, to shew the invalidity of the objections preferred by our contemporary. In conclusion, we would submit one request to the editor of the *Athenæum*, and to all who still doubt the truth of Mesmerism.

Let them believe nothing they see done by others, nothing of which they read; but let them make their own experiments, and upon the result we are content to stake the issue. Let them, with their own hands, try to mesmerize a dozen persons in their own families, or among their friends, where they possess the most absolute assurance that there is no imposture. If it fail to produce in them the phenomena we have described as exhibited by our friends and relatives, they will be justified in doubting others; but if they find, as they will find in one or more of them, that the result is similar to that which they have read of other cases, we shall claim of them a candid admission that the imposture which they know to be impossible in their own case was not practised by persons as honest as themselves.

And then let them join the Society for the Investigation of Mesmerism, for the purpose of ascertaining, by well-planned experiments, what is the physiology of the strange facts they have witnessed.

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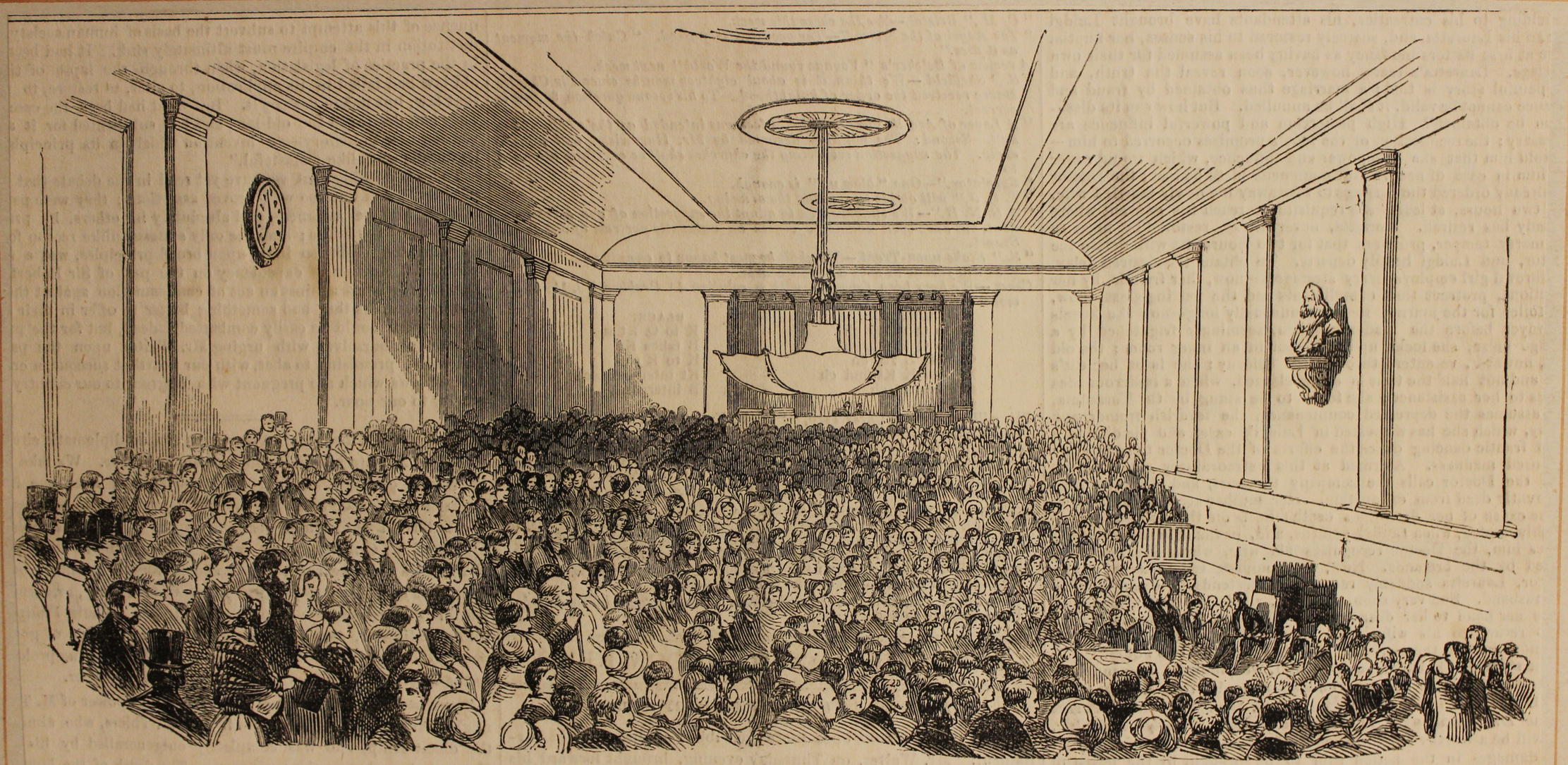
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GREENWICH LITERARY INSTITUTION.

LITERARY INSTITUTION.

March 1845

The following are the Classes and Lectures for the ensuing week.

MONDAY.

Second Lecture on Mesmerism and Clairvoyance, by Mr. Vernon.—Sacred Harmonic Society's Rehearsal, conducted by Mr. Qu'nton.—Elementary Singing Class, conducted by Mr. Gantter.

The discussion class of the Greenwich Literary Institution, have, for the last three weeks, had the subject of Mesmerism under consideration.

On Friday, February 7th, Mr. J. French put forward the following proposition, "That Mesmerism is calculated to become of public utility" And in a neat, concise, and well-pointed essay ably opened the subject.

He was supported also by various members of the class, who related several cures that had come under their notice, by the aid of mesmerism.

After a few remarks by Mr. D. Bass, secretary to the Institution, and Mr. Ryde, the chairman, the meeting adjourned for a week.

On Friday, the 14th, the discussion was opened by Mr. J. Parker, who, after affirming mesmerism to be a modification of known laws, enlightened his hearers by a definition of mesmerism; and, with a view to expose it to ridicule, said 'How can coma be inconsistent?' It is well known that an elderly parson, with a tedious sermon, would soon send his hearers into a state of profound coma! Clairvoyance is no new thing. He related a case in illustration, of a boy that could distinguish colors and objects at the back of his head. Every body thought it astonishing—but the affair turned out that the father was a ventriloquist, and the boy never spoke at all. How was it this science did not rank among other sciences? In France it was out of date, and even in our own Lecture Hall, that last year was filled, we scarcely now hear anything of it. He concluded by saying they had a right to doubt everything contrary to the natural course of nature.

Mr. W. G. Smith, in reply, said that one proof of mesmerism being true was its universality. That at the present time persons in the highest walks of science and literature were embracing its principles, among whom stood the name of Dr. Ellistson. He, Mr. Smith, thought Mr. Parker, in defining coma, knew nothing about it, or what the state of coma was. That this wretched description of clairvoyance would not tell as an argument against the truth of mesmerism. Was a subject like this to be made a jest? calculated as it was to allay the sufferings of our fellow creatures. He did not understand whether Mr. P. was in jest or earnest, but he thought he ought to treat the subject in a more serious manner. And briefly referred to Miss Martineau's case, as one of the marked benefits resulting from mesmerism.

Mr. Joyce then rose, and in that mild, argumentative, candid and affable manner, so characteristic of his general character at the class, took his usual position, viz., the leader of the opposition. After assuming mesmerism to be humbug, practised only by knaves and fools, and asserting Miss Martineau's case was one of gross delusion, and a Mr. Harrold's case not much better, he proposed an amendment which was seconded by Mr. Pettett. Strange to say, Mr. J. let slip the following sentence—"That he believed any state that is produced by mesmerism may be produced by other means.

Mr. W. G. Smith tried for about ten minutes to induce the mesmeric sleep on Mr. Harrold and succeeded in partially closing the eyes, but owing to the lateness of the evening he would not continue the experimeni.

The class then adjourned.

Mr. W. G. Smith opened the discussion on Friday evening, Feb. 21st, by saying, he hoped he had met that evening, gentlemen who were anxious to investigate truth; that they would banish all preconcerted opinions, and apply themselves to facts. Those who came there to witness experiments as a mere puppet-show, would, he hoped, go away disappointed. They had not mere pieces of mechanism to operate on, but human beings as themselves, and that perfect order was required, the operation being one of abstraction and concentration of mind, it required his undivided attention to its full development. That it should impress their minds with some soul-stirring and solemn truths—to show them the power possessed by one person over another, for either good or evil purposes. Mr. S. then proceeded to explain the nervous phenomena of mesmerism. He said there were three stages, viz.,

1st, or imperfect state—From this state the slightest touch or noise would awaken the patient.

2d stage, or comative state—It was in this tate the patient was dead to all feeling, the loudest noise would not awnken them, and the most painful surgical operation could be performed without the patient feeling the slightest pain.

3d stage, was somnambulism or sleep-walking—It was in this state all the alleged phenomena of attraction, catalepsy, or rigidity of the muscles, phreno-mesmerism, &c., were developed. Some reach a very high state of lucidity, and could perceive without the use of their eyes. He hoped they would take the experiments that were to follow for just as much as they were worth.

Some interesting experiments followed, but owing to the excited state of the meeting, and the conflicting opinions afloat as to whether the patient was really asleep or not, also from the conditions laid down not being duly observed, the patient was thrown into an hysterical condition, and the meeting separated in confusion.

The class has during the last two or three weeks more than doubled its numbers.

LECTURE ON MESMERISM.

A lecture by Professor Vernon, of the Mesmeric and Phrenological Institution of London, was on Monday night delivered in the large hall of the above society.

Mr. Vernon, on opening, alluded to the great excitement this subject had produced in Greenwich, and although at the first there had been considerable opposition, there was not one now who would dare come forward and deny the fact that there was truth in that science. After alluding to the scepticism of Hume as to miracles, and Babbage as to mesmerism, the lecturer proceeded to read from a list the names of several of the most eminent men, all of whom were convinced of the truth of mesmerism, or as it is also termed, animal magnetism, amongst whom were Cuvier, the great naturalist; Empieur, Previot, Georges, Depusé, Brewster, Trepas, Bertrand, La Rue, Patisé, Lavater, Hoffman, Paris, Elliotson, Colquhoun, and Gregory, the Professor of Chemistry, at Edinburgh, the latter of whom was so thoroughly convinced of its truths, that in his lectures delivered to his classes, he had reported many cases he had effected by means of the mesmeric fluid. In France and Germany, continued the lecturer, so convinced are the medical practitioners of the truth of mesmerism, that no less than 1400 works have been published on the subject. The second commission of the Academie de Sciences, at Paris, so well convinced of its truths were they, that under the 23d head of their report, they entered very fully into the subject. The professor then entered into the nature of mesmerism, which he stated was produced by external causes—it was the medicine of nature, the exuberance of vitality in one person given to another deficient in such vitality—merely a change produced in the nervous system of the human being. Does not the thunder-storm, continued Mr. Vernon, produce a change in our nervous system? A pleasant word, or a harsh look, do they not produce a change, the one by a smiling lip, the other by a downcast eye? So also are the feelings of joy and despair produced by external circumstances.

Mr. Vernon then related an anecdote of a traveller in North America, who whilst on his road observed two Indians rubbing two pieces of wood together, for the purpose of procuring

a light, but without effect; he took from his pocket a lucifer match, and having rubbed it on the sole of his shoe, it instantly ignited. The savages were so astonished, as it appeared to them a supernatural power, that they were ready to fall down and worship him. This feeling, said Mr. Vernon, was produced by the external cause of the sudden ignition of the lucifer, acting on the nervous system of the Indians.

Persons mesmerised, or whilst under a state of nervous excitement, have no immediate recollection of what transpires whilst in the mesmeric or nervous state, yet many years after, six seven, or eleven years, they have a very distinct remembrance of all the circumstances, and illustrated the fact by the following anecdote—"Lockhart, in his biographical history of Scott, relates that his work, the Bride of Lammermoor was written by that great author, whilst labouring under a severe fit of nervous excitement,, and that his daughter was compelled to act as his amanuensis on the occasion, writing from his father's dictation, and that on the recovery of Sir Walter he had not the slightest recollection of this fact; and so fearful was he that he had committed some blunder in its composition, that he immediately sent for a copy of that beautiful work, and was highly delighted when he found that so far from having committed any errors, he had never produced a more interesting novel."

The lecturer then touched slightly on the subjects of clairvoyance and somnambulism, and related a circumstance of a man who, whilst under the state of mesmeric clairvoyance, with a thick board placed before him, copied a sheet of music, note for note, and wrote under each note the words of the song. Invalids, continued the Professor, whilst in a state of nervous excitement, can inform their medical adviser not only what would do them good, but also predict the period of their recovery, and gave several instances; in one the patient had desired a raw lobster, another roast pig, and a third porter, which on being given them really had the desired effect, and they recovered. So in the brute creation, instinct leads them to choose that which will be most beneficial to them, and yet so wilfully blind and obstinate are some persons that they would rather suffer the most acute anguish than be cured by mesmerism, considering it to be the agent of a wicked power. The Rev. Mr. Pyne, of Hook, in the county of Surrey, has stated that he has effected upwards of one hundred cures by means of mesmerism. Miss Martineau, than whom there is not a stronger minded woman, so convinced was she of the truth of this science, that, after five years of severe suffering, she underwent the operation, when, from that moment, she got better; and from not being able to walk from one room to another, without assistance, was in a short time so far recovered as to walk a considerable distance without feeling fatigued. But what said her physician? He told her it was all nonsense—she was not any better—it was mere fancy. The editor of the *Athenæum*, in an article, went so far in remarking on this lady's case, that as she had not received a medical education, it was impossible for her to say whether she was better or not. Mr. Vernon then proceeded to state that he had at that time a patient, a young lady, the daughter of one of the Judges in Bombay, who, from some disease under which she was labouring, was unable to walk, and was compelled on every fourth day to be leeched. This lady, in the early part of December last, placed herself under his care, and was so far recovered that on Friday last, the 21st inst., she walked from her residence to the Regent's Park, a distance of three miles, to see the skaters. Mesmerism was now taking a firm hold on most people, more especially the medical profession. He had lately called upon a medical bookseller, who informed him that on every ten pounds' worth of books sold by him, at least six or seven was for works on mesmerism. Even the *Lancet*, a work so diametrically opposed to mesmerism, would not, at one time, admit a single word on that subject into its columns; but how different was it now, each number since the commencement of January last had long articles written on mesmerism.

The lecturer, after alluding to his visits to Worcester, Bath, and other places, giving a hard rub or two to a person named Rumbald, who was continually following him about from place to place, wherever he lectured, proceeded to introduce to the notice of the audience a young female, in whom he produced the mesmeric sleep in rather less than one minute. Having led her from her seat he proceeded to produce rigidity in both arms, which he shortly effected, and having placed a chair on each wrist, she kept them in a horizontal position about six minutes, when he relieved her from the weight, the arms still keeping their state of rigidity. After several other experiments, he proceeded to try the phreno-mesmeric power over the subject, and having requested the audience to pencil down which organs they would desire to have acted upon, the following were most clearly manifested—veneration, benevolence, mirth, imitation, tune, combativeness, &c. The lecturer then introduced Mons. Adolphe, the celebrated somambulist, of Paris Having placed him in a state of mesmerism, he first proceeded to produce rigidity; this he easily accomplished. The lecturer asked whether any gentleman would like to try the limb so operated on. A gentleman then stepped forward and having tried to bend the limb, declared most unequivocally that there could not be any deception, that the arm was as stiff as a bar of iron. This subject appeared irritated if any one save the mesmeriser approached him. Mr. Vernon then produced two large balls of wool, which having handed round to the company, several of whom tried to look through this opaque substance, but ineffectually, he placed one on each eye of the subject, binding a thick cachemere neckerchief over the wool, fastening it behind his head, and two silk handkerchiefs transversely, rendering it a matter of total impossibility for the patient to catch even the slightest glimpse of light even were he so predisposed. Mr. Vernon then produced a pack of cards, but previously stated that any lady or gentleman might, if they so desired, obtain an entirely new pack; and that Mons. Adolphe would be happy to play a game of ecarte with any gentleman then present. No person, at first, accepting the somnambule's challenge, the lecturer asked the gentleman who attended for the KENTISH MERCURY whether he understood the game, and if so, would he play a hand or two with Mons. Adolphe. Understanding the game he readily acquiesced, and having taken his seat at the table, Mons. Adolphe took the cards, and having divided them according to the laws of the game, viz., by taking out and placing on one side the deuces, tres, fours, fives, and sixes; and the remainder being shuffled the opponents cut for deal, and having played two hands our reporter gave up his seat to another gentleman, who having also played a couple of hands, both stated, in the most positive manner, that they were fully convinced that there was not the least juggling—that it was a fair trial—and a positive proof that clairvoyance was very strong on this subject. Mons. Adolphe was then subjected to various other trials, such as reading printed cards, slips of paper on which there was writing—all of which he read most correctly, causing much laughter at his curious pronunciation of our language. It is, however, but right to observe that this gentlemen has but very lately arrived from Paris, and scarcely understands one word of English. The experiment of the mesmerised half-crown did not succeed. This was the last experiment of the evening.

Mr. Vernon then returned thanks for the attention paid by the audience. It appeared that many, who, at the commencement of the lecture, were very sceptical on the subject of clairvoyance, were so truly astonished at the convincing proof of its truth and efficacy, that they left the Hall wavering between belief and doubt. As for ourselves, we can fearlessly state that there was nothing underhanded or deceptive in the matter—we were only astonished that such things could be.

MESMERIC INSTITUTE, 27, Duke-street, Manchester-square, March 19, 1845.—We, the undersigned, members and visiters of the Mesmeric Society, witnessed the extraction of a tooth from the mouth of Anne Wakeland, by Mr. Purland, surgeon-dentist, 59, Mortimer-street, Cavendish-square, she being in a mesmeric trance produced by Mr. W. J. Vernon; and we hereby certify and believe that the patient did not exhibit or feel the slightest pain during or after the operation, of which, when awakened, she expressed her entire unconsciousness.

A. H. Forrester (Alfred Crowquill), 4, Portland-place north, Clapham-road.
W. J. Vernon, 27, Duke-street, Manchester-square.
M. Bomguier, 21, Beaumont-street, Portland-place.
Henry Powell, 102, New Bond-street.
Edw. Stevens, Hermitage Lodge, North Fulham.
Emilia Hall, 27, Duke-street, Manchester-square.
A. Foureautt, 21, Beaumont-street, Portland-place.
Robert Rouse, 1, Wigmore-street.
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From the Times of March 24, 1845.

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Mesmeric and Phrenological Society,

27, DUKE STREET, MANCHESTER SQUARE.

The Council meet at 8 o'clock precisely every Wednesday Evening for the admission of Members, the investigation of Mesmeric Phenomena, and to superintend operations in the Mesmeric state.

T. PURLAND, Hon. Sec.

A "PAGE" OF PHRENOLOGY.—"DOING-A-HEAD!"

EDITED BY PAUL PRENDERGAST.



How delightful is the pursuit of actual science! Actuated by an appetite for useful knowledge, I connected myself some years ago with a literary and scientific society, which had been formed at Islington, where I reside, among a small but respectable circle of friends. Our members are inclusive of several ladies—among them, of Mrs. Brown, the amiable partner of my lot, with whom I have lived in an uninterrupted state of felicity for a longer time than, perhaps, she will allow me to state. The predilections of Mrs. B. are precisely similar to my own; and having no family, we are enabled to devote the greater part of our time to indulgence in our favourite pursuits.

Our society meets at the house of each member in rotation, at half-past six precisely. After an exhilarating cup of tea we proceed to business, and a lecture is delivered by the host of the evening, on the composition of water, the nature and properties of steam, the construction of the barometer and thermometer, or some other improving and entertaining subject. Sometimes our recreations are diversified and enlivened by a discourse from one of our number, who is a young medical man, on the conformation of the skeleton, the circulation of the blood, and the like arcana of the healing art. At our last meeting we were gratified with a paper on hydraulics, as exemplified by the common pump.

One evening, our young professional friend, whose name I may mention is Mr. John Hunter Dummer, obliged us with a lecture on the sciences of mesmerism and phrenology. Never having had the means, previously, of acquiring any information on these subjects, I had formed no opinion respecting them; I therefore hailed the opportunity thus afforded me of enlarging my stock of ideas. Mr. Dummer very much disposed me to believe that there was something in the doctrines which he advocated, particularly as he appealed in confirmation of them to facts, which, as he with great truth remarked, were stubborn things. Resolved, as he recommended, to make observation of Nature the test of truth, I took home with me a phrenological bust, accompanied by a card, descriptive of the different organs, which he was so kind as to lend me. The study of them rendered me a zealous convert to phrenology. The next day I examined the heads of our domestics—not without some opposition on the part of the cook, who, I imagine, at first misapprehended my object.

Our knife, errand, and foot-boy, or page, was endowed with an extraordinary "Locality," which, among other things, occasions a desire for change of place. I had never observed any indications of the faculty in the boy; but he came a few days afterwards to give warning, wishing to change his place, as he said, to better himself—but, as I am convinced, acting under the influence of his "Locality."

When he was gone, I made up my mind to choose his successor on phrenological principles; one of the chief uses of phrenology having been stated by Mr. Dummer to be, its applicability to the selection of servants. Accordingly I rejected numerous applicants for his situation, who came with the best recommendations, not finding their organizations in conformity with their alleged character; and, finally, made choice of one, whose head, in my judgment, was to be depended on. He seemed to have a fine moral development, with particularly large "Wit," "Form," "Imitation," "Constructiveness," "Adhesiveness," "Marvellousness," and, as I thought, "Ideality."

When I inquired what his name was, he answered, "Bill Summers." I considered his substitution of "Bill" for "William" as a proof of the facetious tendency of his mind—which, admiring innocent mirth rather than otherwise, I considered by no means a disqualification on his part for my service.

I soon found that the disposition to humorous manifestations was really very strong in this young gentleman, and was manifested in a variety of ways. If his fellow servants asked him for anything, he would often playfully demand whether they did not wish they might get it? At the same time, he generally put his thumb up to his nose, and twiddled his extended fingers. He would inquire of young passers-by at the area railings, of whom he had no previous acquaintance, the state of the health of their maternal parents? whether those relatives were aware of their being from home? if they had disposed of their mangles? and many similar questions, which, though they had rather the semblance of impertinence, were no doubt dictated by a pure love of drollery.

This "Wit" or "Mirthfulness," acting along with "Imitation," and perhaps "Tune," oftentimes occasioned him to indulge in the utterance of various noises, which I supposed were intended to resemble the cries of different animals. Of these, a favourite one was a note something like the call of the lapwing, another was similar to that of the turkey. The duck he imitated to perfection.

His "Adhesiveness" was shown in the delight which he evidently derived from the interchange of ideas with the butcher and baker boys at the area, wherein he would sometimes spend more time than I quite approved of.

To make sure that my phrenological estimate had been correct, I induced him, by the present of five shillings, to allow his head to be shaved, and to let me trace out the different organs thereon in ink. I chose some of Mrs. Brown's marking ink for the purpose, which being principally composed of nitrate of silver or lunar caustic, was ineffaceable by ablution. I mapped out the bare scalp in exact conformity with the bust, and was confirmed in the conviction that I had made no mistake.

Shortly afterwards, several spoons were missing. The cook and housemaid, on being taxed with the theft, indignantly denied it; and the idea that so well organized a boy as William was capable of such a delinquency, was preposterous. Mrs. B. had a tame magpie, and having read in various books of natural history of the propensity of this creature to pilfer and secrete such articles, we determined, not without great reluctance on my wife's part, that the bird's neck should be wrung—an operation which was performed by William, and which he appeared to undertake with greater readiness than could have been predicted from his large "Benevolence."

We had occasionally before observed the marks of smutty fingers on the exterior of mince and apple pies, and had fancied that an undue diminution had taken place in their contents during their reservation in the larder. At length, too, the beer, which it was William's province to fetch, began to assume a much more aqueous character than is consistent with Barclayian integrity. This circumstance, in spite of our preconceived opinion of the lad's honesty, gradually induced us to question his pretensions to that virtue; and at last Mrs. Brown having lost a brooch, and a diligent search having been vainly instituted in the other servants' boxes, the bedroom of Master William was examined, under the auspices of F 34, when, to our astonishment and confusion, the brooch and two or three of the spoons, with a pawnbroker's duplicate for the rest, were discovered behind a loose brick in the chimney.

The youth was with little loss of time conveyed in the charge of F to the Clerkenwell Police-office, and thence in a van to Newgate. Before he left, we called in Mr. Dummer to look at his head, and explain its discordance with what he had turned out to be. And now comes the climax of my narration, which I record for the benefit of inexperienced phrenologists. What I had marked out as "Ideality" was declared by Mr. D. to be in reality "Acquisitiveness," which, in this instance, was so large as to come three inches in advance of its legitimate boundary, and to occupy the place of the former organ. Here, therefore, as that gentleman remarked, was one of those beautiful exceptions which prove a rule.

William is now in Australia.—*Illuminated Magazine.*



A YOUNG GO-A-HEAD.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

MR. SPENCER T. HALL, practical and consulting MESMERIST and PHRENOLOGIST, 59, Pall Mall (opposite Marlborough House), London, has a MESMERIC SEANCE, with SOMNAMBULIC and other EXPERIMENTS, every TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, and FRIDAY, at twelve o'clock, to which the Nobility, Gentry, and Members of the polite and learned Professions are admitted by Cards, had of Mr. Ollivier, publisher and bookseller, Pall Mall.

A private SEANCE may be commanded, if desirable, at any other period of the day.

"Mr. Hall's experiments are too refined, elegant, and elaborate for a miscellaneous audience; but I may truly say that I never attended a lecture illustrated by phenomena so beautiful and satisfactory."—*Speech of Dr. G. Calvert Holland, author of "Vital Statistics," &c.*

"I have been most intimate with Spencer Hall from his very boyhood, and know that he loves whatever is true and beautiful, and scorns whatever is false or mean. * * * The phenomena he has shewn us might furnish the finest studies for painting or sculpture."—*William Howitt, author of the "Rural Life of England," &c.*

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"I owe much to Mr. Hall for his disinterested zeal and kindness. He did for me all he could; and it was much to make a beginning and put us in the way of proceeding."—*Miss Harriet Martineau's public Report of her Cure by Mesmerism.*

"The facts of Mesmerism are of a nature so startling, that we must be satisfied not merely of the integrity, but also of the sagacity of the operator, before we can yield them our belief. Both these qualities Mr. Hall obviously possesses in a remarkable degree. And when the patients are under his influence, as nothing in sculpture surpasses the beauty of their attitudes, so nothing in features irradiated by the habitual emotions of a noble and cultivated nature is more exquisite than the expression which lights up theirs."—*Bon Gaultier.*

"These phenomena startle you, because they are put too much in comparison with our more ordinary experience, instead of our higher knowledge. Yet as I have watched with the closest scrutiny the experiments by which Mr. Hall has developed them, my interest in them has been intense, and my satisfaction and delight equalled only by my conviction of their importance."—*Public Speech of Dr. Dick, the Astronomer.*

*** A Conversazione every Friday Evening at Eight o'Clock.

May. 1845 Cards as above.

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ANIMAL MAGNETISM IN CHINA.—This is understood in the celestial empire, and turned to good account, being practised by the barbers of Canton. "I observed," says M. Borget, "that the greater part of the patients slept while they were being shaved, and I could not account for this singularity. But one morning I observed a man seat himself on a stool a little apart from the rest; I began my task of sketching, when the barber, instead of cammencing his operations, placed himself before his customer, and, first of all, took hold of his hands, then passed his own several times over the shoulders, and before the face of the sitter, who shortly fell into a state of quiet drowsiness, if he did not actually go to sleep. He then moved his customer's head about in every direction he pleased, to facilitate the operation of shaving. When he had finished he shook the sleeper gently and awoke him. I frequently saw the same thing practised afterwands."—*Captain Pidding's Chines Olio and Tea Talk*, No. 11.

INJURIOUS EFFECTS OF MESMERISM.—A distressing case, similar to that recorded at Deptford, occurred about three months since at a coffee-house in Bunhill-row, where an ignorant pretender attempted to mesmerise a boy, the son of Mr. Hewitt, a coffee-house keeper, but from which the most distressing results followed. The victim, an intelligent boy, about 10 years of age, who had been made the subject of many previous experiments, some of which were considered to be very successful, was for a long time in a comatose state, and subject to epileptic fits. He lost his eyesight, which has only finally returned by giving him a permanent squint. For some time not only his vision but his faculties were much obscured, and it was feared that complete mental fatuity would ensue. The unhappy youth was visited by Dr. Elliotson, who pronounced it a case of cross-mesmerism; but the attempts at his complete restoration were only partially successful until his removal to Devonshire, where change of air has nearly restored his health and faculties.

LECTURES ON MESMERISM.—Mr. Brookes delivered two lectures on Mesmerism, before the members of the Mechanics' Institution, on the evenings of Wednesday and Friday last, in the County Assembly Room, which on the last occasion contained upwards of 400 persons, the reserved seats being occupied by many of the neighbouring gentry and their families. Mr. Brookes at the first lecture produced the half sleep in a young gentleman, well known to the audience, in about seven minutes, and in a young woman, the servant of one of the members, who was sent to sleep in two minutes. Being much excited at this, her first appearance in public, her pulse was, before mesmerising, about 130, and the palpitation of the heart very violent. No sooner, however, was she asleep than the palpitation ceased and her pulse fell to 100. At the second lecture the wife of one of the members then present, who had known nothing of mesmerism till that evening, volunteered, amongst others, for experiment. She was put to sleep in about three minutes and a half. Two young lads, the sons of a tradesman in Maidstone, were then tried. One of them was soon set to sleep, and exhibited a partial catalepsy of the arm. The experiment failed with the younger brother. It succeeded, however, in five cases out of six, in some instances on patients of rather unfavourable temperament. Several medical gentlemen were present. The lectures appeared to give the greatest satisfaction to the audience, and the amount of money taken at the door, equalled, we believe, that taken for any previous lectures delivered before this valuable institution. Maidstone. Jan. 1843

MESMERISM

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION,

88, HACKNEY ROAD.

THREE LECTURES

AND

DEMONSTRATIONS

OF

MESMERISM

AND

CLAIRVOYANCE,

BY

Mr. W. J. VERNON,

OF THE INSTITUTE OF MESMERISM AND PHRENOLOGY, 27, DUKE STREET, MANCHESTER SQUARE,

WITH

ADOLPHE,

The celebrated Somnambule de Paris, and other interesting Cases.

On WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9,

AND FOLLOWING

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THE PENNY POST.

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MESMERISM.

MESMERISM, or Animal Magnetism, sharing the fate of all other systems, has been, and is, vigorously assailed and staunchly defended by those who, from prejudice or reason, subscribe to its doctrines, or deny its asserted powers to exist save in the imaginations of its advocates; and one need not be surprised to find both of these positions most tenaciously held and most resolutely defended; for, as forming one of the many hypotheses which mankind have to discuss, there is probably not its equal in pretensions, presumptive or established. That by its influence a general bodily languor or indisposition to exertion—frequently verging on that peculiar semi-amorphous state hitherto most rationally supposed, wherever its existence was determined, to indicate an abnormal condition of the cerebral organs—may be produced, few will deny who have paid but a passing attention to the "Mesmeric exhibitions." These exhibitions, although they may not have tended to advance the interests of Mesmerism as a system based on scientific principles, have nevertheless established the fact, that, by a certain apposition of bodies, there is an influence propagated and received, by which the Mesmerising body is able to produce in the body Mesmerised, *nolens volens*, such a general inactivity or *unimpressibility* of the nervous system, as that it shall be unconscious—or, at all events, not exhibit the usual symptoms of consciousness—of pain, irritability, or titilation, when such sufficiently powerful injuries are inflicted as would in the body conscious cause suffering, inconvenience, or at least spasmodic action. And if Mesmerism could "no further go," even this would be abundantly enough to form a line of demarcation between established fact and wild conjecture, and opens a wide field for discussion and experiment.

And discussion and experiment can alone determine whether in Mesmerism there lie the seeds of a science which, ripened by the midnight toil of philosophers, shall in due season spring up into a tree, yielding not alone blossoms and fragrance, but fruit of a value not to be imagined by this generation; or whether it shall prove the "baseless fabric of a vision," destined to "leave not a rack behind."

Dating the present era of Animal Magnetism from the promulgation of its doctrines by Mesmer in his own land, but little success seems to have attended his early endeavours to proselytise; and perhaps, but for that influence in high places, which enabled his opponents to procure a decree of banishment against him, there would not now be occasion to discuss the merits of a system which has, by its exhibitions, had the opposite effects of convincing some of its truth, persuading others of its imposture, and been of force to occupy the minds of academies and governments. Mesmer, on quitting the land of his fathers, journeyed to Paris, that city which is "all things by turns, and nothing long;" where, as the humour was in his favour, he was welcomed, fêted, and established as the guardian of the health of the court of Louis the Sixteenth. Possessing the influence of a court-physician, it is not to be wondered at that his doctrines should find many converts, not only in France, but in other countries also, our own amongst them. But in these latter little if any progress was made; whilst in France a commission was established to inquire into the pretensions of Mesmerism and report thereon. Accordingly, in the year 1784—the same year that Mesmer quitted Paris to seek restored health in the most rational manner possible,—by change of air, scene, habits, and diet,—either because he lacked faith in his own science, or because no one could be found possessing enough of the magnetic influence to affect him—the commission, composed of several of the most eminent medical men of Paris, together with some non-medical members of the Academy of Sciences, met and investigated the matter submitted to their adjudication; and most condemnatory of the pretensions of Mesmerism was their deliberately formed report.

A still greater blow to Mesmerism was given by Bailey's report, which, though it has been much and cleverly objected to, has yet to be overthrown ere Mesmerism can again rear its head as a science. Whether Mesmerism will ever so take rank, is a point as to which there do not appear to be any present grounds for venturing an opinion. Cases better authenticated, more universally witnessed experiments on parties not previously submitted to the private manipulations of the magnetisers, can, probably, alone determine this.

Meanwhile of the wonders of Animal Magnetism, the books are full; wonders calculated not merely "to make the vulgar stare," but to arrest the attention and occupy the thoughts of thinking men. Amongst these, few are more remarkable than those of the cure of insanity by the magnetic influence; and few, it may be added, are the respects in which Mesmerism could well be likely to prove a blessing than in the cure or alleviation of that "saddest scene of sadness," "the fall of intellectual greatness from its height." A most curious case of this kind is related by Dr. Teste, in his "Manuel Pratique du Magnétisme Animal;" from Dr. Spillan's translation of which we extract it:—

"In the month of August, 1819, Mr. Crooswijck, of Rotterdam, aged twenty years, was attacked with epileptic fits. These fits frequently returned, and assumed such a degree of severity, that in the month of October following the patient passed into a state of frenzy and madness. Four strong men were scarcely able to hold him. Placed, by way of precaution, in an alcove, he broke with his own hands a strong camp-bed; the doors of the alcove, though secured with great strength, fell to pieces under his violence; they were obliged to reconstruct them three times.

"During the months of January and February there was a little calm, but the first of March his madness broke out anew, and the patient demolished every thing he could lay his hands on.

"After having exhausted, without success, all the ordinary resources of the medical art, the last physician they had consulted, the learned M. Sander, took advantage of some moments of calm to induce the patient to let himself be magnetised; I was called in. At my first visit, though I had been informed of all the previous circumstances, I was struck with astonishment and fright on seeing the furious state of this young man, and the havoc which he had committed. I could not but recoil at the idea of risking my own existence in my attempt to save him, an attempt, too, that was to all appearance hopeless. I succeeded, however, in calming my own emotions before the persons who were present at this visit, and I made up my mind. The feeling of my duties to humanity, the desire of restoring an unfortunate young man to his disconsolate family, the ambition to vindicate the honour of my profession, urged me to the resolution of despising every personal danger, and of devoting myself to the destinies of my patient.

"On the following day I undertook my first operation. By the effect of magnetisation, the patient passing into the magnetic sleep, became calm; but he experienced a dragging sensation, and convulsive movements in the arms and legs, joined to a sense of fluttering over the entire body. The tongue projected from the mouth, and though he retained his intellectual faculties, a circumstance which I ascertained by the signs he made to me for the purpose of answering some questions I put to him, he was completely deprived of speech. Dreading the explosion of his madness, the terrible effect of which I had constantly before my eyes, I sometimes calmed the motion of the nerves, and sometimes left him his free course, leading him gently to its termination.

"After having slept the magnetic sleep for one hour, the patient awoke, and extended his limbs three times with considerable force. He had no consciousness of what had passed, but he felt

himself relieved and comforted. When I left him he was in rather a comfortable state.

"I continued the magnetisation for two days; the magnetic sleep, which was gradually developing itself, was interrupted by fits of frenzy so violent that the patient tore his clothes, his bed, &c. I allowed him to proceed to a certain extent, and then abruptly interrupting his fury, I exercised on him that great magnetic force, by blowing my breath upon him. He generally awoke after a magnetic sleep of an hour, calm and relieved. The effect of magnetisation and of somnambulism increased from day to day. The number of persons who came to be present at the treatment likewise increased daily. Already they were rejoicing at seeing the calm succeed the violent paroxysms. This joy, however, was entirely premature: the frenzy of the patient became so alarming that, not only for myself, but for all those who were to approach him, the enterprise was extremely dangerous. My magnetic force, however, retained its influence over him. After these operations I succeeded in making him pass into the complete state of somnambulism. Then it was he declared to me that he could be cured only by magnetism; and announced to me beforehand, with the strictest accuracy, the hours and minutes when his paroxysms would take place. I obtained in this way the knowledge of the danger I should have to encounter, as also of the means of preparing myself to meet it.

"After eight or nine days' magnetisation, the critical moment for the patient and for me was decidedly approaching. He foretold to me that in three days he should have a paroxysm of madness which was to last for two hours and a half.

"'This frenzy,' says he to me, 'will be so violent, that I cannot answer for the danger you will have to incur. It is a great task for you to undertake my cure. When my madness will commence to develope itself, you must allow it to go on for twenty minutes, and then it will be excessive; but after having burst the doors, you must suddenly throw yourself on me, and stop my paroxysm. I do not dare promise you that this great effort will succeed; but if you do not undertake it, there is not a hope for me: I must inevitably perish. The only means remaining for me I have now told you; but mind, in no case will you get out of it without suffering.' He became silent for an instant; and then, with tears in his eyes, he asked me, 'Will you venture to undertake it?' I was moved to the very soul; I had to sustain the struggle of a thousand different impressions which alternately lacerated my heart. I took my resolution. 'In the name of God, be it so!' I exclaimed. The poor young man seized my hand, kissed it with transports, expressed his gratitude to me, and advised me to tell him nothing on his awaking of what had occurred in his magnetic sleep.

"The dreaded day appeared; at five in the morning I repair to Mr. Crossnijck's house, accompanied by the worthy surgeon, Van-Wagening, who, under all these painful circumstances, faithfully afforded me his aid and assistance. Though my heart was oppressed, I formed my plan of conduct. I took off my cravat in order not to be strangled; I took a cordial, and prepared for the attack. At six o'clock, the moment predicted by the patient when in the state of somnambulism, the paroxysm commenced. The madman set up a frightful howling; he tore the clothes about him, the bed-clothes, and his shirt.* The twenty minutes were nearly elapsed; we took away the pieces of timber which barricaded the doors of his room, and all around me took a precipitate flight. I remained alone: the door of the apartment was shut on me. At a distance I contemplated, not without horror, the frightful figure of my phrenetic patient, like to a ferocious beast; his tongue hung out of his mouth, and his hands were directed towards me like the claws of a tiger: his countenance was really frightful. The fatal moment was come, the battle must begin. Collecting all my force I spring on the unfortunate fellow, and seize him by the shoulders. There we are pitted, one against the other, like two spiteful enemies; he seizes me also by the shoulders, and the struggle commenced. The earth seemed to sink beneath my feet, my hair stood erect on my head. I aroused my courage, blew my breath on the poor madman with all the intensity I could, knowing by experience that this means gave me most power over him: I had the good fortune to triumph. This terrible struggle, which I sketch with difficulty, had lasted but five minutes, when the patient fell on the ground as if absolutely dead: he was in the magnetic sleep. I fell myself quite exhausted by his side. My clothes were torn to pieces. 'Rest a little,' said the somnambulist to me; 'two more violent paroxysms are still to follow; I shall apprise you of it by making the signal with my hand . . . .' M. Dr. Wagening and the elder brother of the unfortunate patient came in. I had scarcely recovered from my exhaustion, when the patient gave the fatal signal. These two gentlemen had to support me by the loins; the patient, in his frenzy, made every effort to seize me by the throat; it was only by the intensity of my blowing that I succeeded in keeping him sufficiently removed from me to prevent him from satisfying his rage. Let any one figure to himself my situation; I was just on the point of yielding, when all at once this paroxysm was checked and a calm supervened. After some minutes rest, the third paroxysm was manifesting itself in a form still more alarming than any of the preceding. I passed once more through the terrible ordeal, but came off victorious.

"It was thought that the evil was now surmounted; already they were shedding tears of joy, the patient himself was covering my hands with the most ardent kisses to testify his gratitude to me. Alas! we had conjured away but the least portion of the storm. In the ordinary magnetisation, and the same day at eleven o'clock before noon, the hour at which I magnetised him, the somnambulist predicted to me, that for three consecutive days he would be attacked with madness and hydrophobia; that the third day the evil would be at its height; that if on that day before four o'clock in the afternoon he had not drunk water three times, his ruin was inevitable. The first two days passed away under frightful circumstances. The unfortunate madman was more dangerous than ever; he broke the strongest pieces of furniture with his hands, demolished the chimney-piece and the window-sashes, at the risk of tumbling down the wall. The terrors of the third day were beyond all conception; the maniac called for a drink the third time; I take the vessel, but he upsets it, falling on me in order to pull out my teeth. The fatal hour was going to strike, all was lost. The unfortunate man continued his demolitions, always without hurting his hands, his only instruments. He is often going even to break the door! We are all on the point of running away, in the conviction that we had done every thing that men could do in order to save him. Four o'clock is just going to strike! but the thundering voice of the unfortunate man crying out three times, 'Drink! drink! drink!' strikes our ears with a feeling of inexpressible joy; I run up to him, present him the cup; he hesitates, refuses; I exhaust all my magnetic power on him, and he drinks.

"Nothing was yet done. In the course of our ulterior magnetisations, some days after the last trials, he predicted to me three other paroxysms still more terrible, which would occur at different epochs more or less distant. 'He would be saved, provided I could continue on him the same treatment.' These three crises really did occur in frightful progression. The unfortunate man was encompassed by a copper girdle, to which had been affixed an iron chain, fastened by strong hooks to a stake fixed in the ground.

"In the first of these crises he demolished every thing that the length of his chain allowed him to reach. Before the second, he was placed in a house which was in a state of demolition. Nothing could resist him. More than two hundred persons came to be witnesses of this formidable delirium.

"The day preceding the day when the third crisis was to take place, the patient was removed to Schiedam, to an uninhabited house; and there, attached to a long chain which was fastened to a solid block, he could vent his rage on the thick stone walls. At Schiedam every one was in motion; here, as at Rotterdam, the police were at my disposal, and I had great need of them to keep order among the people, whom curiosity or the idea of seeing a miracle had brought from all parts. The last three crises were got over as the preceding.

"When restored to his reason, the patient still experienced some nervous attacks, which were soon calmed by magnetisation, and the paroxysms went on diminishing by little and little, and at length returned no more.

"This interesting young man enjoys perfect health, and joins to a calm mind the full possession of his intellectual faculties."

* "Are we to suppose that strait waistcoats were not yet invented in Holland?"

FROM THE ZOIST OF JULY, 1845.

Baillière, Regent Street.

Extraction of Teeth in the Mesmeric State.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ZOIST."

Sir,—I beg to offer to your notice, and if you think fit for insertion, the following case:

Miss C—— had suffered from a spinal complaint for ten years, and the powerful remedies used to facilitate a cure, acting upon the Teeth and Gums, caused intense suffering, and finally decay of almost all, and loss of many of the molars; the pressure being transferred to the incisors, they were soon reduced to stumps, and mastication being impracticable, indigestion followed as a matter of course.

The case growing serious, it was determined to have recourse to artificial substitutes, to do which, with accuracy, it was requisite to remove *ten teeth and stumps*, and that the operation might be performed *without pain*, Dr. Elliotson recommended that myself and Mr. Vernon should be applied to for assistance.

The result is as follows:—

April 4, 1845. Mesmerised by Mr. Vernon for the first time. In five minutes there was a quivering and moving upwards of the eye-ball, in two minutes more the lids fell; the head went gently backwards, and volition appeared to be destroyed, the arms falling heavily if raised. In five minutes she sat up and began to talk, said she saw the magnetizer, and a beautiful light,—*bluish*; felt sparks when touched; could see the fingers if passed before her closed eyes; felt the hand hot, but was very easy and comfortable.

Continued to mesmerize her daily, till Wednesday the 16th, during which the same state was induced, with occasional insensibility of only a few minutes duration; manifested the sympathy of taste with extraordinary precision, and is clairvoyant, seeing, or rather knowing how many persons are in the room, and if any are strangers; discerning objects at the top and back of the head, and reading fluently ordinary sized print with the eyes closed; one strange fact occurring, viz., the book being royal octavo, "*The People's Phrenological Journal*," the finger was moved along the lines, within six lines of the bottom of the double columns, while she read correctly the lines at the top of the page.

Finding the patient had no recollection of anything which occurred during the mesmeric sleep, we determined to commence the operation, and on—

Wednesday, April 16. I extracted the stumps of two bicuspidati right, inf. max.; right lateral; and stump of canine sup. max.

Thursday, 17. Second molar right, and second molar left, sup. max. (these two teeth are very formidable, the fangs being much hooked and divergent.)

The patient having to see company on the 18th, on—

Saturday, 19. I extracted two centre incisors; left lateral; and stump of left canine, sup. max.

In all TEN! four stumps and six teeth.

At first it was thought advisable to operate only when the patient was, or appeared to be insensible, but, as those moments were few and far between, we resolved to proceed in the sleep-waking state, and the result proved Mr. Vernon's opinion to be correct, viz., "that if the patient felt any pain she would not know anything about it when awakened," indeed so far from feeling pain, it seemed a diversion to her, and when demesmerised her astonishment was great on being told she had lost four teeth!

Before closing this letter, I must remark upon the extraordinary appearance of the gum the day after the operation.

I extract some thousands of teeth per annum, and in the majority of cases the gum does not close *firmly* in less than three or four days, but in this case—and it is general when mesmerically treated—not merely closing, but *positive adhesion takes place in a few hours;* there are persons who invariably have a bad mouth and pain for a week after when the operation is performed in the ordinary way, but who never experience any inconvenience when treated mesmerically.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

T. PURLAND,

Surgeon-Dentist to the Mesmeric Institute, and Vice-President of the Mesmeric and Phrenological Society.

59, *Mortimer Street, Cavendish Square,*
May 5, 1845.

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VITA-MAGNETIC AND GENERAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL TREATMENT.

VITAL MAGNETISM, which I was first induced to practise in the humblest and most retired manner among a few poor of my neighbourhood, has gradually and unexpectedly led me into an extensive scene of responsibility, which has strongly affected my mind with thoughts of the multiform sufferings of our race.

Following, therefore, as I trust, the leadings of Providence, which no one can beforehand discern for himself, I wish, should funds admit, to begin an institution for the reception of patients.

My design is to place the hospital under the best medical and surgical care I can command, maintaining this *medicine* of *Nature* in its due prominency.

By such means, in addition to the usual benefits of a sanitory establishment, (much needed, as it

seems to me, in a growing population), the advantages of Vital Magnetism in enabling patients to undergo operations without consciousness, and in the cure of diseases, might be yet further realised; the whole subject might receive more complete investigation, and suitable parties might be instructed in the administration of this relief.

Should, therefore, the present notice, offered with much solicitude, (not from a doubt of the wondrous efficacy of the influence, but only from the magnitude of even the least attempt of the kind, and the cares necessarily involved in it), meet the attention of persons who would be kindly disposed to promote the object, I shall feel grateful for any aid or counsel which it may be in their power to render.

I can now only commend the undertaking to the good keeping of Him who taught in reference to another wish for His glory, and for human welfare, though it long lacked fulfilment,—"Thou didst well, in that it was in thine heart," and would remind my readers, that there is nothing at least uncongenial with the Christian ministry in such efforts, since the Saviour, in commissioning his disciples, joined the "healing of the sick" with "the preaching of the Gospel."

The above Address (being the Preface to the

Third Edition of "Vital Magnetism, a Remedy*") is respectfully submitted to the consideration of the benevolent and humane. My hope is, ultimately, to render the Establishment in some degree, if not wholly, self-supporting; but funds are needed to begin it and to set it fairly on foot, and I shall thankfully acknowledge even the least assistance to this end.

Communications to be addressed to the Rev. Thomas Pyne, Kingston-on-Thames.

THOMAS PYNE,

Incumbent of Hook.

Kingston-on-Thames, *June*, 1845.

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* Persons disposed to inquire into the subject of Vital Magnetism are referred to "Vital Magnetism, a Remedy:" by the Rev. Thomas Pyne, A. M., Incumbent of Hook, Surrey; Third Edition. Published by Mr. Highley, 32, Fleet-street. Price 2*s*.

Mr GEORGE HOLMES,
54 Dorset St.
Fleet St.

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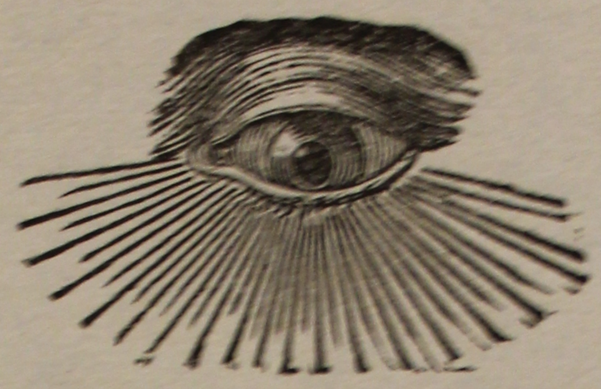
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CRITICAL NOTICES.

"After a very careful reading and consideration of this work, we must at once express our candid opinion, that the mass of evidence produced by Mr. Capern in support of the extraordinary powers of mesmerism, rightly applied in the alleviation of pain and human misery, and in the cure of many grievous complaints, after the failure of the ordinary modes of skilful medical practice, is irresistible. . . . It should be remembered that the most valuable discoveries ever made have encountered much opposition. The Rev. Dr. Chalmers, the great Scotch Divine, remarked of the first introduction of the Newtonian philosophy, 'Authority scouted it, taste was disgusted at it, and fashion was ashamed of it.' So it was with the discovery of the circulation of the blood by Harvey; of vaccination, by Jenner; and of numerous other discoveries, the truth of which has since been universally admitted."—*The Western Luminary.*

"The author seeks to establish a belief in the curative properties of that mysterious agent known by the name of mesmerism, not by argument, but by the simple process of publishing upwards of one hundred and fifty cases wherein cures of various diseases, including rheumatism, paralysis, affections of the eyes, &c., have been effected. . . . We do not pretend to give any opinion upon the subject, but in justice to the author we must say that all the instances of cures which he cites are furnished with the names and addresses of the parties cured, so that if the sceptical wish to have their doubts removed the opportunity is afforded. We know that medical men say 'fudge' when mesmerism is mentioned; they may be right: but it must be remembered that the cotemporaries of Dr. Jenner ridiculed his ideas respecting vaccination."—*Trewman's Exeter Flying Post.*

"This little work contains a mass of cures, sufficient to convince any sceptic of the sanative powers of mesmerism. They are described artlessly and carry inevitable conviction. The Preface is written by an evidently honest and disinterested man, and contains a collection of most amusing anti-mesmeric opinions."—*The Zoist.*

"Is there any truth in mesmerism or not? is a question that has been often mooted now-a-days, and as often replied to in a vague and unsatisfactory manner. . . . When we perceive such eminent names as Dr. Elliotson, Dr. Ashburner, and Dr. Herbert Mayo, besides a host of other respectable practitioners of lesser note, enlisted on the side of *The Zoist*, one would almost imagine that the scepticism of the most unbelieving would be shaken, if not removed. . . . The volume before us professes to prove the 'mighty curative powers of mesmerism' by instances of one hundred and fifty cases of various diseases, which have been cured by its means; and we have no hesitation in expressing our opinion, looking at the respectable and unimpeachable authority by which these cases are supported, that they have really and in a *bonâ fide* manner been cured by the influence of mesmerism. How far its use as a general curative agent may extend we are not in a position to say; but of this we have no doubt, that in many distressing diseases mesmerism is of incalculable utility. We advise our readers and others who wish to be made more acquainted with its uses and effects to read Mr. Capern's little volume of mesmeric cures."—*The Reporter.*

"Mr. Capern has now published a list of some of his most remarkable cures, and they consist of many of the most inveterate and intractable diseases to which flesh is heir to—blindness itself not excluded; and these diseases have fled before the touch of Mr. Capern, as they did before that of Valentine Greatrakes. However, they do not fly immediately; sometimes weeks or months are required to effect the final cure; but frequently a sensible improvement, and sometimes a cure, is experienced at the first touch of his hand. . . . As hope, however, is the life of the soul, and the possibility of restoration is the food of hope, it is cheering to think that there are remedial agencies in nature reserved for even the most obdurate and inveterate ailments."—*The Family Herald.*

"The present volume is purely a record of cases. Whether produced by mesmerism, by imagination, or by the curative power of nature, the cases are curious and invite inspection, as they are all fully authenticated. . . . Mr. Capern has in this volume recorded a great variety of cases. On the main subject we suspend judgment. Ready to admit proof, we have not yet seen evidence to establish all the pretensions of mesmerism: but abundant evidence to establish its right to be seriously considered and examined. The facts remain, let theories shift as they may; and all collections of such facts are to be welcomed. For this we welcome Mr. Capern's little volume."—*The Leader.*

LONDON:

TO BE HAD OF THE AUTHOR,

At the Mesmeric Infirmary, 9, Bedford Street, Bedford Square,

AND OF THE BOOKSELLERS.

1850.

MESMERISM AND SOMNAMBULISM.

May 24. 1851.

Mme. EMILIE,

THE CELEBRATED SOMNAMBULIST FROM PARIS,

Who has had the honour of being consulted by Louis Napoleon, President of the French Republic, by the Archbishop of Paris, and by many of the Continental Nobility, begs to inform the public at large, that she has just arrived in London, and will give daily Consultations on every kind of Disease, and every Privacy of Life, at her residence,

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Mme. EMILIE is the only Somnambulist who speaks *every language* in her mesmeric state; and it is owing to her extraordinary lucidity that her success in the most distinguished circles of Europe has been so complete and decided.

The Somnambulist will call upon parties who may require her attendance.

Consultations by Letter, containing a lock of hair.

A French Doctor accompanies the Somnambulist.

MADAME EMILIE,

LA CELEBRE SOMNAMBULE DE PARIS,

Qui a eu l'honneur d'être consultée par Louis Napoleon, Président de la République Française, par l'Archevêque de Paris, et beaucoup de hauts personnages, fait savoir qu'elle vient d'arriver à Londres, et qu'elle donnera tous les jours des consultations sur les maladies les plus invétérées, ou les choses les plus secrètes de la vie, à sa demeure,

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PRÉS SEWELL AND CROSS,

Mme. EMILIE est la seule Somnambule qui *parle toutes les langues* sous l'influence magnétique, et c'est par cette lucidité extraordinaire qu'elle a obtenu les plus brillants succès dans les premiers salons des principales villes d'Europe.

La Somnambule se rendra chez les personnes qui le désireront. Consultations par lettre en joignant une mêche de cheveux.

Un medecin français accompagne la Somnambule.

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Fees for a written Phrenological Delineation of Character, 2s 6d; Children, 1s 6d.
Fees for Mesmerizing known on application.
Advice gratis to the poor on Monday Mornings. June 1848

Shilling between cards. Address, H. LAMBERT, No. 76, Lower Thames-street, London.

1851

HUNGERFORD HALL, STRAND.

ANIMAL MAGNETISM.

SOIRÉES LASSAIGNE.

WONDERFUL EXPERIMENTS,

BY

M. LASSAIGNE, & Mlle. PRUDENCE,

(The First Magnetiser in Europe.) (The Best Clairvoyante known.)

EVERY EVENING, AT EIGHT O'CLOCK PRECISELY (EXCEPT THURSDAY).

Synoptical Programme.

TRANSMISSION OF THOUGHT.

Experiment of the Bouquets—Execution of Mental Orders without previous preparation—Experiment of the Liquids, *i. e.* finding in water the taste of any liquid mentally required, &c., &c.

ILLUSION OF THE SENSES.

The Somnambulist will feel the identical sensation that any person put *en rapport* with her will mentally wish her to feel—She will narrate an event, real or imaginary, in the life of any person present, and execute Musical Improvisations, &c.

PHYSICAL AND NATURAL PHENOMENA.

Physical insensibility of the patient as an automaton—Her power over the Compass—Her influence over Iron, as if it were touched with Loadstone—the power of distinguishing any magnetised object amongst similar objects not magnetised—Partial or general Catalepsis—Acceleration or diminution of the beatings of the pulse—Attraction and Repulsion—Influence of Metal over the nervous system of the Somnambulist, &c., &c.

VISION; OR SEEING WITH THE EYES BLINDFOLDED.

Games at Ecarté—Naming of Cards without handling them—Telling the hour by any watch held behind her head—Reading any French phrase written on the spot—Physical description of any person put *en rapport* with the Somnambulist—Detailed description of any distance, place, &c., &c.—Finally, the Somnambulist will describe any object her attention may be directed to.

MYTHOLOGICAL, HISTORICAL, CLASSICAL, OR IMAGINARY ATTITUDES.

Ideal substitution—Complete identification with any historical character or personage—Sensation or impression of happiness, joy, grief, affliction, laughing, crying, and even apparent death.

To describe the wonderful phenomena exhibited by the Somnambulist is morally impossible, and the Public Press have unanimously declared the same to be unprecedented. (See on the other side the various extracts from the Newspapers).

Prices of Admission:—Chairs on the Stage, - 4s. Pit, - 2s.

Reserved Seats may be secured at the Manager's Office, by the additional payment of One Shilling for each Reserved Seat.

DOORS OPEN AT HALF-PAST SEVEN O'CLOCK P.M.

May — 1852

THE ADAMIC INFIRMARY OF

ANIMAL MAGNETISM,

18, STORE STREET, BEDFORD SQUARE.

Supported by Voluntary Contributions.

N. HALE, Principal.

Meetings will be held as above every Thursday Evening, at 8 o'clock, for Lectures and also Discussions upon the truth and utility of

ANIMAL MAGNETISM,

as a curative Agent for all Nervous Diseases, when the Audience will have an opportunity of witnessing its effects.

ADMISSION FREE.

Donations will be solicited each Evening in behalf of the Infirmary.

Poor Patients wishing to avail themselves of the benefits of Magnetism, will make application at the Infirmary.

The Principal having made this science the study of his life, has established a Theory that will bear the strictest Investigation, being founded in fact.

Private Patients can consult Mr. Hale, at 18, Store Street, every day (except Sunday), from 3 till 6 p.m., or will be waited upon at their own Residence by appointment.

By order of the Council,

T. GARDINER, Hon. Sec.

YOUD, Printer, 62, Tottenham Court Road.

1852

MR. HALE,

PROFESSOR OF ANIMAL MAGNETISM AND MEDICAL GALVANIST,

18, STORE STREET, BEDFORD SQUARE,

LONDON.

Mr. H. having made the Science of Animal Magnetism his particular study for the past Twenty-five years, confidently recommends it as a Curative Agent, and his great success in removing diseases which withstood the power of medicine, warrants him in asserting that it is the best and safest remedy for the following complaints :—

HYSTERIA,	SPINAL COMPLAINTS,	DROPSY,
EPILEPSY,	GOUT,	WHITE SWELLING,
PARALYSIS,	RHEUMATISM,	RHEUMATIC GOUT,
INSANITY,	INCIPIENT CONSUMPTION,	AGUE, &c. &c. &c.

Animal Magnetism (called Mesmerism) is particularly useful in cases of Paralysis and Epilepsy, and, indeed, it may be asserted with confidence, that there is no other remedy ; medicines in these cases being not only useless, but injurious to the constitution.

Perhaps no disease is more prevalent than Epilepsy, and unfortunately none more neglected. Take the case of a young female, aged fifteen, who is subject to these fits. Upon their first appearance, her friends are naturally alarmed, send, of course, for their medical attendant, who, if he has no intention of running up a bill *for nothing*, will tell them not to be afraid, nature will cure the complaint in course of time. Had he said *may* instead of *will*, such assertion would be correct. How many families are there that have learnt the sad truth, that nature will not always be so kind, and what are the consequences of this neglect ? The fits increase in number and strength ; the age of eighteen is attained, when the probability of a cure is considerably diminished : mark the result, the constant recurrence of the fits generally tend to soften the brain, and produce upon it a permanent injury ; the Patient gradually becomes dull, loses her memory ; the eye looks wild and vacant, and her friends too late discover her reason is affected. The object therefore to be obtained in effecting a cure, is to diminish the number and strength of the fits, which Animal Magnetism, when properly applied, accomplishes in a short period ; this giving nature power to overcome the complaint, which of itself it is seldom able to do.

Mr. H. begs to state that his practice is founded upon a theory (the correctness of which has been sufficiently tested by considerable experience) which enables him to discover the true nature of disease, and also whether it may be termed incurable, in which case he invariably refuses to practise. Numerous aud respectable references can be given to those desirous of availing themselves of the advantages of Animal Magnetism.

ANIMAL MAGNETISM

Possesses some peculiar advantages, which are as follow :—

1st.—No Medicine being given the constitution cannot be injured, and the mere application of the Mesmeric Power, under the direction of an efficient Professor, will at any rate be harmless, if no benefit is derived.

2nd.—It does not at all interfere with the regular practice of medicine, as it is useful only where medicine has been proved of little effect or totally useless, as is the case with all the diseases above enumerated. A few examples are selected from several hundreds of

CASES.

Case 1.—Disease, Epilepsy and Paralysis of the arm—Miss D., aged 17, discharged incurable from a London Hospital ; cured by Mr. H. in three weeks.

Case 2.—Disease, Incipient Consumption—Miss G., aged 17, in the Hospital for Consumption without much benefit, the seeds of this insidious disease still remaining, came to Mr. H. with an incessant cough accompanied by spitting of blood ; cured in three weeks.

Case 3.—Disease, Epilepsy—Miss C., aged 20. This case was one termed incurable, and was on that account given to Mr. H. by her own Medical Attendant ; successfully treated in four months.

Case 4.—Disease, Partial Paralysis of both arms and legs—Mrs. S., aged 30, this lady was afflicted with the above complaint for two years, and in addition was considered by her Medical Attendant to be in a slow decline; restored to perfect health in a few weeks.

At Home for consultation from 3 till 6 o'clock, P.M.

Tic Dolourèux, &c. &c.

Admission, 1s. **Reserved Seats, 2s.**

COURSE TICKETS, 2s. 6d. **DITTO TO RESERVED SEATS, 5s.**

Consultations and Treatment of Disease, at 29, SOMERSET STREET, PORTMAN SQUARE, every Morning till One p.m.

Geo. Nichols, Printer, Earl's Court, Leicester Square.

SATURDAY EVENING ENTERTAINMENTS.

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47, LEICESTER SQUARE.

MR. REYNOLDSON,

SOLE PRACTITIONER TO THE

Liverpool Medical Mesmeric Society,

From 1844 *to* 1848,

WILL GIVE A COURSE OF THREE SPLENDIDLY

ILLUSTRATED LECTURES

UPON

MESMERISM

AND

ELECTRO-BIOLOGY,

On Saturday, Sept. 18, 25, and Oct. 2.

Doors open at Half-past Seven, commence at Eight. 1852

SYLLABUS.

FIRST LECTURE—SEPTEMBER 18th.

All Mesmeric Phenomena depend upon Transfusion of Nervous or Muscular Energy—Special controul of the Muscular System has been called Electro-Biology—Every breath we inhale supplies from the atmosphere energia, *which keeps the blood and grosser fluids of the body in their appropriate flow—Disease is due to an insufficient or ill-distributed supply of this vitally important agent.*

SECOND LECTURE—SEPTEMBER 25th.

Of Sleep—Hypothesis of Macnish—Mesmeric Sleep—Sleep produced by Ether—by Chloroform—by the fixed gaze upon an inanimate object—Danger and disadvantage of these methods.

THIRD LECTURE—OCTOBER 2nd.

Of waking Mesmerism, called Electro-Biology—The true method of curing disease—Mr. R.'s experience in Fever—Consumption—Rheumatism—Gout—Asthma—Dropsy—Tic Doloureux, &c. &c.

Admission, 1s. **Reserved Seats, 2s.**

COURSE TICKETS, 2s. 6d. **DITTO TO RESERVED SEATS, 5s.**

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Consultations and Treatment of Disease, at

29, SOMERSET STREET, PORTMAN SQUARE,

Every Morning till One p.m.

MR. REYNOLDSON,

PRACTICAL AND CONSULTING

MEDICAL MESMERIST,

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This is Truth, though opposed to the Philosophy of Ages.

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City Road, near Finsbury Square.

1852

Monday Evening, Nov. 29, & Thursday Evening, Dec. 2,

GERALD MASSEY,

(Author of the "Voices of Freedom," and "Lyrics of Love,") will deliver

TWO LECTURES

ON THE SUBJECT OF

Human Magnetism

AND

CLAIRVOYANCE,

The Truth of which will be Demonstrated by various Interesting and Wonderful Experiments, in the highest manifestations.

Syllabus of the Lectures.

The World's opposition to new and great Ideas. The blunders of Scepticism and the Martyrs of Science. The History of Animal Magnetism. Mesmerism demonstrated to be a Sanative Art. A contagion of Health, as well as of Disease. The Philosophy of Health. It is not the doctors' drugs that cure. Methods of Magnetizing. Electricity. The Laws of Nature. The Sceptics and their Arguments. Clairvoyance, artificial and spontaneous. Instances of natural Clairvoyance. The brain of Intelligence and of Instinct. Clairvoyance explained. Curious and amusing Anecdotes.

The Science of Phrenology will be Illustrated by Phreno-Mesmerism or Excitation of the Organs of the Brain, selected by the Audience, and called into action by the Operator, **without Contact.** Catalepsy of the Muscles, induced by means of Mesmeric passes. Reading of books, papers, &c., by **INNER VISION,** the ordinary Visual means being suspended by any of the Audience **closing and holding the Eyes of the Clairvoyante with their own hands.** THE

Clairvoyante, Mrs. Gerald Massey,

Long known in Mesmeric Circles, as **'SOMNAMBULE JANE,'**

has manifested the peculiar power of

SECOND SIGHT,

For a Period of Eleven Years, during which time she has been satisfactorily **Tested by numerous Persons of all Classes.** And the Lecturer invites all who desire to become acquainted with the Truth of a marvellous Phenomenon, to a fair and faithful investigation. It is requested that the Audience will provide themselves with their own books or papers, for the Clairvoyante to read, to prevent the supposition of collusion or deception, and that, in every instance, the Print be legible.

Admission...HALL 3d. GALLERY 6d: PLATFORM SEATS 1s.

Doors open at Eight, Lecture at Half-past Eight o'clock.

N.B. The Public are requested not to confound these Lectures and experiments with what is termed ELECTRO-BIOLOGY.

N.B.—A Private Mesmeric Séance every Friday Evening, 8 o'Clock, at 56, Upper Charlotte Street. Fitzroy Square. Admission 2s. 6d. Also, Phrenological Manipulation, and Clairvoyante Consultations.

SALLE ROBIN,

232, *PICCADILLY, opposite the HAYMARKET.*

Sole Lessees and Proprietors, Messrs. A. AVENAU & SMITH.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

V. R.

Unprecedented & Unrivalled Attraction ! ! !

SOIRÉES PARISIENNES

AND

ARTISTIQUES.

The new Proprietors and Lessees of the SALLE ROBIN beg to inform the Nobility, Gentry, & Public in general, that this Elegant place of Entertainment, 232, Piccadilly,

Will RE-OPEN (for the Season) on MONDAY, DEC. 27, 1852.

(BOXING NIGHT,)

AND THAT THE ENTERTAINMENT WILL BE REPEATED

EVERY EVENING, AT EIGHT O'CLOCK,

AND

EVERY WEDNESDAY & SATURDAY

A MORNING PERFORMANCE,

AT HALF-PAST TWO O'CLOCK.

FIRST APPEARANCE THIS SEASON OF THE CELEBRATED

MADLLE PRUDENCE BERNARD,

ASSISTED BY

MONSIEUR ROUX,

(HIS FIRST APPEARANCE IN LONDON.)

WONDERFUL AND MARVELLOUS EXPERIMENTS IN

MESMERISM, TRANSMISSION OF THOUGHT, ILLUSIONS, CLAIRVOYANCE, and DOUBLE SIGHT.

In addition, First Appearance in London of the far-famed

PARISIAN ORPHEONISTS,

(LUTICE & ALBION), who will have the honor of appearing with the whole Company (20 voices).

Acting Manager and Régisseur ..... *M. P GRENET.*

PRIVATE BOXES, £1 1s. 0d.	**PIT STALLS .. .. .. 2s. 6d.**
Orchestra Stalls, in front, 3s. 0d.	**AMPHITHEATRE .. 1s. 0d.**

CHILDREN (under Ten Years of Age), HALF-PRICE.

The BOX-OFFICE will be open daily, from 11 till 4 o'clock, where Tickets and Places may be secured.

Doors open at half-past Seven; and at Two o'clock for the Morning Performance.

Carriages ordered at Ten o'clock for the Evening; and Four for the Morning Performance.

Printed by W J. GOLBOURN, 6, Princes Street, Leicester Square.

PAINLESS REMOVAL OF A FEMALE BREAST IN THE MESMERIC TRANCE.

A VISIT

TO THE

MESMERIC INSTITUTE,

36, WEYMOUTH STREET,

PORTLAND PLACE.

BY

THEODOSIUS PURLAND,

SURGEON-DENTIST.

"If you would learn, read without prejudice."

LONDON:

WALTON & MITCHELL, PRINTERS, 24, WARDOUR STREET.

1854.

[*Gratis.*]

ASTOUNDING OPERATION IN THE MESMERIC TRANCE.

"Truth is stranger than fiction."

At the invitation of Dr. Elliotson, I attended at the Mesmeric Infirmary in Weymouth Street, Portland Place, on Wednesday, April 26th, to witness the removal of the right breast of a female whilst in the mesmeric trance.

I entered the institution at a quarter past one, in company with Mr. Kiste, and we were shortly joined by Dr. Elliotson, Mr. Tubbs the operator, Col. Bagnold, Dr. Symes, Mr. Goff, and Mr. Amor.

At two several other gentlemen arrived, and much anxiety was expressed as to the result of the operation. Mr. Tubbs was, however, quite confident that his patient would not feel it in the least.

Shortly after two o'clock we were ushered up stairs; here we found the patient,—a female of apparently about forty years of age, seated in a reclining chair, and Mr. Tubbs, with Mr. Burman as his assistant, prepared to perform the operation.

The company being seated, Mr. Tubbs proceeded to entrance his patient: this he effected in a few minutes by standing upon a chair *behind* her, taking her hands in his, and looking down steadily into her eyes, which were raised for the purpose.

After the quivering and closing the eyelids, Mr. T. descended, and made passes in front, from the head to the knees, for about two minutes: she was then considered so deeply entranced as to be able to undergo *any operation, however severe, without feeling it*. The result fully justified this confidence.

After the breast had been examined by Dr. Elliotson and Dr. Symes, the knife was handed to Mr. Tubbs by Mr. Burman, and the deepest anxiety was depicted on every face.

The first incision was made amidst the most breathless silence, and all eyes were directed to the face of the patient: *not a muscle moved—not a sigh! there was the same placid smile*

as when she closed her eyes under the mesmeric influence: she breathed freely: her left hand lay listlessly in her lap—the right was held up by Mr. Burman, to be out of the way—*there was no restraint.*

Mr. Tubbs continued to dissect out the breast leisurely—*there was no hurry to get it over;* and when the whole was removed, the silent astonishment of the gentlemen assembled was excessive.

But Mr. Tubbs had not done yet: he probed with his finger every part, and finding a portion that had eluded his knife, *seized it, and cut it out as coolly as if trying his weapon upon a dead body.*

Dr. Symes and Mr. Beard, at Mr. Tubbs's request, examined the patient, and on their declaration that all had been removed, the operator, assisted by Mr. Burman, passed five needles through the lips of the wound and inserted the sutures.

Still the patient slept!—still smiled! A little wine and water was administered—her dress was arranged—each gentleman resumed his seat—and Mr. Tubbs awakened his patient by a few transverse passes.

On opening her eyes, she was addressed by

Mr. Tubbs.—"How do you feel?"

Patient.—"Have you done it?"

Mr. Tubbs.—"Supposing it is done, how do you feel?"

Patient.—"I am very well."

Mr. Tubbs.—"Have you felt anything?"

Patient.—"No! I have felt nothing."

Mr. Tubbs.—"Then it *is done!*"

The patient smiling incredulously, her dress was opened, and upon her being satisfied that it *was done*, her face beamed with thankfulness.

To all questions put she answered *decidedly that she had not, nor did she feel, the slightest pain; on the contrary, she was quite unconscious that the operation had been performed until awakened.*

After a short address by Mr. Tubbs relative to the operation, preparations were made for *carrying* the patient to bed; but she declined all assistance, and *walked up two flights of stairs as if nothing had occurred!*

Mr. Tubbs was now warmly congratulated upon his success by his brother mesmerists and their friends, the accompanying certificate was drawn up and signed, and a general wish expressed, that those *self-styled medical magnates (?)* who scoff at *"the greatest truth in nature,"* for want of a little *common sense to leaven their learning*, would have the *charity* to follow the noble example set by Mr. Tubbs, *and save their patients from the tortures now so needlessly inflicted by them.*

Thus ended one of the most remarkable meetings ever convened, and proud must every member feel at the opportunity afforded him of witnessing one of the most satisfactory operations ever performed in England.

T. Purland,
Surgeon-Dentist.

7, Mortimer Street, Cavendish Square,
May 1, 1854.

Mesmeric Institute,
36, Weymouth Street, Portland Place,
April 26, 1854.

We, the undersigned members and visitors of the Mesmeric Infirmary, witnessed the amputation of the right breast of Mrs. Flowerday, by Mr. W. J. Tubbs, Surgeon, of Upwell, Cambridgeshire, she being in the mesmeric trance induced by the operator. And we unhesitatingly assert and believe that the patient did not suffer the slightest pain, and upon being awakened, declined every assistance, and *walked* upstairs to bed.

John Elliotson, M.D., F.R.S., Conduit Street.
Edmund S. Symes, M.D., Bowden House, Berkeley Square.
Adolphe Kiste, 37, Maddox Street.
R. Goff, 21, Kensington Gore.
J. Amor, 135, New Bond Street.
Smith Burman, Surgeon, Wisbeach.
F. C. Beard, Surgeon, 44, Welbeck Street.
M. E. Bagnold, 14, Upper Hamilton Terrace, St. John's Wood.
T. A. Shaw, Kensington.
W. Underwood, 1, Vere Street, Cavendish Square.
G. F. Lusignan, 2, Little Bush Lane.
C. Mayhew, 33, Alfred Street.
T. Purland, Surgeon-Dentist, 7, Mortimer Street.
W. Fisher, 18, Euston Place, Euston Square.
Elizabeth Sherborne, Matron.
T. Gardiner, Resident Secretary.

MESMERIC INFIRMARY,

9, BEDFORD STREET, BEDFORD SQUARE.

Supported by Voluntary Contributions.

President, THE EARL OF DUCIE.
Treasurer, DR. ELLIOTSON.
Secretary & Resident Superintendent, MR. CAPERN.

Attendance from Ten till Four.

A Subscriber of One Guinea per Annum, has the privilege of recommending a Patient, and witnessing the progress of the Cure.

Sir,

Mr. WELTON, Mesmerist and Galvanist, of 14, Salisbury Place, New Road, (2 doors west of Gloucester Place, Portman Square,) has the honor to acquaint the Nobility, Gentry and Public that he has cured Rheumatic Gout, Liver, Spinal and Uterine Complaints, Painter's Colic, Fits, Lumbago, and other disorders, by Mesmerism in some cases, and in others by Galvanism and Mesmerism combined; and, knowing he has still the power to do so, solicits your patronage should you require his aid, and having three Clairvoyantes Mr. W. charges nothing for their services, except to those who consult him for that purpose alone, in that case the terms are Five Shillings each sitting.

The Art taught to those desirous of learning it,—Terms,—3 Guineas, in advance, and written Instructions given.

Advice given to necessitous Persons before Eleven in the Morning:

MISS ISABELLA LITOLFF,

Mesmerist,

63, Great Marylebone Street, Harley Street,

Cavendish Square.

Mr. G. W. HACLEY,

Magnetiser,

22, Little Welbeck Street, Cavendish Square.

L'INVESTIGATEUR
DU MAGNÉTISME

JOURNAL SCIENTIFIQUE

PUBLIÉ SOUS LE PATRONAGE ET AVEC LE CONCOURS
DE PLUSIEURS DOCTEURS EN MÉDECINE, DE SAVANTS ET D'HOMMES
DE LETTRES

Paraissant tous les quinze jours.

Chaque Numéro contiendra 16 pages grand in-8° jésus, et une belle Couverture imprimée.

PROSPECTUS.

La publication d'un journal étranger à la politique, fidèle organe des amis éclairés et sérieux du Magnétisme, et répondant non-seulement aux besoins de cette science naissante, mais bien aussi à ceux de la Société, nous paraît une excellente œuvre et de la plus pressante nécessité. Cette nécessité sera comprise surtout en présence des persécutions qui ont répandu le doute et l'incertitude dans les esprits les moins prévenus.

Aux savants adversaires du Magnétisme, comme à ses amis, nous déclarons que notre but principal étant l'examen impartial du Magnétisme, la recherche consciencieuse de la vérité, nous ouvrirons nos colonnes à tous les articles que les uns et les autres voudront bien nous adresser, pourvu qu'ils soient de nature à

MESMERISM!

CAPTAIN HUDSON.

Hail thou adept Mesmeric King!
'Tis reason prompts the muse to sing.
How great his skill, how strange the art!
How soon it makes disease depart!
When drugs were vain, and hope forlorn,
E'en some complaints with nature born!

Oh! frigid heart that can refrain
To sympathize with others' pain!
But true the one, that too rejoices,
When health's sweet music tunes their voices.
Didst e'er thou know a mother's grief
Whose child was said beyond relief?
Then ne'er wilt thou her joy explore,
When health befriends him as before.
Or, canst thou tell a father's pain,
Too frail the wants of home to gain?
How stings the contemplating thought,
His dearest ones to famine brought!
Now know his heart who long so maim
Finds Vigour coursing through his frame

But is this power its only use?
His skill can mental joy produce.
How charming Veneration's bow,
And smiling Hopes refulgent brow!
But Wonder, with uplifted eye,
No pictures loveliness can vie!
Touch Wit—if some ne'er laughed before,
Forsooth! they'd join the blatant roar.
But Self-Esteem, oh piteous trait,
Unruff'd dress, and peacock gait!
But bumps there are whose dread display,
Would be prefer'd when we're away;
The names you know, if not then guess,
No human strength can them suppress.

Ha! Ha! will sceptics not believe
The deeds this science does achieve?
They read, they hear, they *see*, but still,
Believe its truths, "they never will;"
But more than this, with *mighty* spite
Against the cause show *little* might.
Now what is this? 'tis never reason,
'Tis sure to Science direct treason.

We all admit that 'tis a wonder,
But these poor creatures make a blunder.
They *will* not think so simple art,
Can such a wondrous cure impart.
'Tis near the same as to aver,
They do the olden mode prefer;—
A dreary illness—twenty years,
Ten thousand groans, a well of tears;
A sea of draughts, the countless pills,
The doctor's calls, and monster bills!
With stubborn bias *some* persist,
That satan does in it exist!
O! Reason does such thought deride
Have they the Stygian King descried?
Now thus they *say*, so let me *ask*
An honest question, nay, a task:
Does satan run (prepare to laugh)
With words along the telegraph?
Now since these powers are near akin,
If wicked one, the other's sin;
And till they prove that this he does,
(No whit I fear) I must oppose.

Did God who sits on Blessings' throne,
Whose sceptres Mercy, Love His crown,
Forbid that man should try to save,
Some fellow mortal from the grave?
That we should not our skill oppose,
To counteract the human woes?
Or say that we when mortals groan,
May answer with an idle moan!
Ah! no, these hands, these eyes, this mind,
For others good, were all designed.

Success! success! to his career,
Fie! fie! to sceptics' spiteful sneer;
Is not the benefactor's fate,
While doing good for some to hate?
But vast his friends! yes, friends of zeal,
Ah! some do more than friendship feel;
Their grateful hearts in thanking Heaven,
A love to him by them is given:
As for his foes—forsooth! they would
Commit this "sin!"—that's if they could.

Leeds, June 4th, 1855. GEORGE THACKRAH.

BARRY BROTHERS, Printers and Publishers, 18, Top of Trinity Street, Leeds.

Jahrgang

MESMERIC INFIRMARY.

A MEETING held at the Earl of Ducie's, No. 23, Belgrave Square, July 9th, 1846, being convinced of the vast benefits derived from Mesmerism in the cure of Diseases, even the most intractable, as well as in the prevention of pain in Surgical Operations, and being desirous that its benefits should be more widely extended to the Poorer Classes than individual exertion can accomplish,—

Resolved—

1. That with this view a Mesmeric Infirmary shall be established by voluntary contribution, for the cure of Diseases and the prevention of pain in surgical operations.

2. That this Infirmary shall be under the management of a President, Vice-Presidents, Trustees, a Treasurer, Secretary, and Committee.

3. That THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DUCIE be PRESIDENT.

Vice-Presidents.

BARON DE GOLDSMID,
VISCOUNT MORPETH, M.P.
R. MONCKTON MILNES, M.P.
J. H. LANGSTON, M.P.
THE REV. G. SANDBY, jun.
THE REV. T. ROBERTSON.

Treasurer.

MR. BRIGGS.

Committee.

DR. ASHBURNER,
DR. BUXTON,
DR. ELLIOTSON,
MR. CLARKE,
MR. CHANDLER,
MR. FLINTOFF,
MR. J. HANDS,
MR. D. HANDS,
MR. F. G. JOHNSTON,
MR. SYMES,
} Surgeons.

REV. DR. DICKSON,
MAJOR BUCKLEY,
CAPTAIN JAMES,
MR. BLYTH,
MR. FRADELLE,
MR. KINGDOM,
MR. TOPHAM.

MR. D. HANDS,
MR. F. G. JOHNSTON,
MR. SYMES,

DONATIONS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	Dons. £	s.	d.	Ann. Subs. £	s.	d.
Adare, Viscount, M.P.	10	0	0	2	2	0
Anonymous, Hampshire	5	0	0			
Akroyd, Mr. Edward, Bankfield, Halifax	5	0	0			
Ashburner, Dr.	10	0	0			
Baillière, Mr.				1	1	0
Bentinck, the Lady Mary				10	0	0
Blyth, Mr. S. S.,				5	5	0
Briggs, Mr. Nottingham-place				5	5	0
Browne, Mr. J., Bridgewater				1	1	0
Browne, Mr. W., "				1	1	0
Buckley, Major, Cheltenham				5	5	0
Bull, Mr. J., Bridgewater	1	1	0			
Buxton, Dr., Brownlow-street	5	0	0			
Chandler, Mr., Surgeon, Rotherhithe				1	1	0
Clarkson, Miss R.	5	0	0			
Ducie, Earl of	100	0	0			
Edwards, Rev. John, Cheltenham				1	1	0
Elliotson, Dr.	50	0	0			
Enfield, Mr., Nottingham				1	1	0
Flintoff, Mr. S., Surgeon, Great Titchfield-Street	5	0	0			
Forbes, Sir Charles, Bart.	21	0	0			
Frances, Mr. 9, Norfolk-crescent, Hyde-park				1	1	0
Frere, Mr., Chiswick	10	0	0			
Goldsmid, Baron de	100	0	0			
Gordon, Mr. James Adam, Naish, Bristol	50	0	0			
Hands, Mr. J., Surgeon, Duke-street, Grosvenor-square	5	5	0			
Holland, Mr. James, New Cross				1	1	0
James, Captain, Dover	5	0	0			
Janson, Mr. H. U., Pennsylvania Park, Exeter				5	0	0
Johnston, Mr. F. G., Surgeon, Saville-row	5	5	0			
Kingdom, Mr. W., Westbourne-Terrace, Hyde-park	21	0	0	5	5	0
Kiste, Mr. Bruton-street	5	0	0			
Lang, Mr. W., Glasgow				1	1	0
Langston, Mr., M.P.	100	0	0			
Lloyd, Mr., Roscommon, Ireland.				5	5	0
Luxmoore, Mr. J. C., Alphington, Devon				2	0	0
Marshall, Mr. James G., Munk Coniston, Ambleside	50	0	0			
Moffatt, Mr., M.P.	5	0	0			
Molesworth, the Dowager Lady	5	0	0	1	1	0
Molesworth, Miss				1	1	0
Murray, Mr. T. Lamie, George-street, Hanover-square	50	0	0			
Nicholls, Mr. H. F., Bridgewater				1	1	0
Noyes, Sarah Ann, (a servant, cured by mesmerism after all other means had failed)				1	1	0
Pettit, Mr. Allsop-terrace, New-road				10	10	0
Robertson, Rev. T., Blandford-square				5	5	0
Sandby, Rev. G., jun.	5	0	0			
Self, Mr. S., Bridgewater				1	1	0
Skipper, Mr. H., Maida Hill West	10	10	0	5	5	0
Spiller, Mr. J., Bridgewater				1	1	0
Stringer, Mrs., Goodhurst	2	0	0			
Swann, Mr. Edward Gibbon				2	2	0
Symes, Mr., E. S., Surgeon, Grosvenor-street	5	5	0			
Topham, Mr. W., Temple	5	0	0			
Tubbs, Mr. F. S., Surgeon, Upwell Isle, Cambridgeshire				2	2	0
Udall, Mr., Temple				2	2	0
Underwood, Mr. W., Vere-street				1	1	0
Underwood, Mr. C., Holles-street				1	1	0
Wallace, Miss, Cheltenham				1	1	0
Walton & Mitchell, Messrs., 24, Wardour-street	1	1	0	1	1	0
Whitfield, Mr., Surgeon, Ashford	1	1	0			

Subscriptions will be received by Members of the Committee, and Mr. Baillière, 219, Regent Street.

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DR. ASHBURNER,
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MR. D. HANDS,
MR. F. G. JOHNSTON,
MR. SYMES,
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REV. DR. DIXON,
MAJOR BUCKLEY,
CAPTAIN JAMES,
MR. BLYTH,
MR. FRADELLE,
MR. KINGDOM,
MR. TOPHAM.

DONATIONS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS.

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	Dons. £	Dons. s.	Dons. d.	Ann. Subs. £	Ann. Subs. s.	Ann. Subs. d.
Adare, Viscount, M.P.	10	0	0	2	2	0
Anonymous, Hampshire	5	0	0			
Akroyd, Mr. Edward, Bankfield, Halifax	5	0	0			
Ashburner, Dr.	10	0	0			
Barton, Mr., Gloster Cottage, Boundary-road, St. John's-wood				1	1	0
Baillière, Mr.				1	1	0
Bentinck, the Lady Mary				10	0	0
Blyth, Mr. S. S.,				5	5	0
Briggs, Mr. Nottingham-place				5	5	0
Browne, Mr. J., Bridgewater				1	1	0
Browne, Mr. W., „				1	1	0
Buckley, Major, Cheltenham				5	5	0
Bull, Mr. J., Bridgewater	1	1	0			
Butler, Mr. Edward, Chelmsford				1	1	0
Buxton, Dr., Brownlow-street	5	0	0			
Chandler, Mr., Surgeon, Rotherhithe				1	1	0
Clarkson, Miss R.	5	0	0			
Collier, Miss, 15, High-street, Camden Town				2	2	0
Cook, Rev. Joseph, Purley Hall	5	0	0			
Ducie, Earl of	100	0	0			
Edwards, Rev. John, Cheltenham				1	1	0
Elliotson, Dr.	50	0	0			
Enfield, Mr., Nottingham				1	1	0
Ewart, Mr. M.P., Cambridge-sq.	5	0	0			
Ewart, Mr. William, M.P.	5	0	0			
Ferrar, Miss, Hunter-street				1	1	0
Flintoff, Mr. S., Surgeon, Great Titchfield-Street	5	0	0			
Forbes, Sir Charles, Bart.	21	0	0			
Frances, Mr. 9, Norfolk-crescent, Hyde-park				1	1	0
Frere, Mr., Chiswick	10	0	0			
Goldsmid, Baron de	100	0	0			
Gordon, Mr. James Adam, Naish, Bristol	50	0	0			
Hamilton, Mr. Wm, H., 10, St. Andrew's-place, Regent's-pk.	5	0	0			
Hands, Mr. J., Surgeon, Duke-street, Grosvenor-square	5	5	0			
Hands, Mr. D., Surgeon, Thayer-street, Manchester-square	5	5	0			
Holland, Mr. James, New Cross				1	1	0
James, Captain, Dover	5	0	0			
Janson, Mr. H. U., Pennsylvania Park, Exeter				5	0	0
Johnston, Mr. F. G., Surgeon, Saville-row	5	5	0			
Kingdom, Mr. W., Westbourne-Terrace, Hyde-park	21	0	0	5	5	0
Kiste, Mr. Bruton-street	5	0	0			
Lang, Mr. W., Glasgow				1	1	0
Langston, Mr., M.P.	100	0	0			
Lloyd, Mr., Roscommon, Ireland.				5	5	0
Luxmoore, Mr. J. C., Alphington, Devon				2	0	0
Marshall, Mr. James G., Munk Coniston, Ambleside	50	0	0			
Moffatt, Mr., M.P.	5	0	0			
Molesworth, the Dowager Lady	5	0	0	1	1	0
Molesworth, Miss				1	1	0
Murray, Mr. T. Lamie, George-street, Hanover-square	50	0	0			
Newnham, Mr., Surgeon, Farnham				1	1	0
Nicholls, Mr. H. F., Bridgewater				1	1	0
Noyes, Sarah Ann, (a servant, cured by mesmerism after all other means had failed)				1	1	0
Paine, Mr., Farnham				1	1	0
Pead, Mr. R. G., Honey-lane Market, Cheapside.				1	1	0
Pettit, Mr. Allsop-terrace, New-road				10	10	0
Robertson, Rev. T., Blandford-sq.				5	5	0
Sandby, Rev. G., jun.	5	0	0			
Selfe, Mr. S., Bridgewater				1	1	0
Skipper, Mr. H., Maida Hill West	10	10	0	5	5	0
Spiller, Mr. J., Bridgewater				1	1	0
Stringer, Mrs., Goodhurst	2	0	0			
Sullivan, Mr. J.	1	1	0			
Swann, Mr. Edward Gibbon				2	2	0
Symes, Mr., Surgeon, Grosvenor-street	5	5	0			

DONATIONS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS—*continued.*

	Dons. £	*s.*	*d.*	Ann. Subs. £	*s.*	*d.*
Symes, Mrs. Grosvenor-street....				1	1	0
Taylor, Mr. Thomas, 12, Duke-street, Borough				1	1	0
Topham, Mr. W., Temple	5	0	0			
Townshend, Rev. C. Hare.....	10	0	0			
Tubbs, Mr. F. S., Surgeon, Upwell Isle, Cambridgeshire ..				2	2	0
Udall, Mr., Temple				2	2	0
Underwood, Mr. W., Vere-street				1	1	0
Underwood, Mr. C., Holles-street				1	1	0
Wallace, Miss, Cheltenham				1	1	
Walton & Mitchell, Messrs., 24, Wardour-street.....	1	1	0	1	1	0
Whitfield, Mr., Surgeon, Ashford	1	1	0			
Wood, Mr. Woolton Hall, Liverpool.....	5	0	0			

Subscriptions will be received by Members of the Committee, and Mr. Baillière, 219, *Regent Street.*

MESMERIC INFIRMARY,

9, BEDFORD STREET, BEDFORD SQUARE.

THIS Infirmary is established for the alleviation and cure of diseases, and for the relief and prevention of pain, by means of Mesmerism.

It is supported by the voluntary contributions of those persons who, having faith in the remedial efficacy of Mesmerism, or being desirous to be assured of the truth of the extraordinary cures alleged to have been effected by its agency in the hands of many credible and respectable persons, are anxious that the poor should have the opportunity of availing themselves of the advantages it may afford.

There is another object which the originators of this new establishment have in view. They desire to extend the field of observation in the science of Mesmerism, and to encourage the promulgation as well as the cultivation of its truths without favour to any party or to any limited or individual interests.

In accordance with the respect which all good men entertain for the characters of those whose benevolence adorns an exalted position, the promoters of this Institution resolve—

I.—That its higher Officers consist of a Patron, President, Vice-Presidents, and Treasurer, who are *ex-officio* Members of the Committee of Management. That the rest of the Committee of Management consist of twelve persons, elected by the general body of Governors.

II.—That the Governors consist of all persons who may make a donation of at least Ten Guineas at one payment,

as a life-subscription; or who may pay subscriptions of at least One Guinea annually.

III.—That the general direction and management of the Institution is vested in the Committee, who shall annually submit their proceedings to the general meeting of the Governors.

IV.—That the Committee vested with these powers have the right of appointment or dismissal of all the Officers of the Institution below the Vice-Presidents.

V.—That the Committee have the power of electing as Honorary Governors such gentlemen or ladies as have rendered important services to Mesmerism.

VI.—That the requisite Officers of the Institution under the direction of the Committee shall be a Treasurer, Medical Officers, Secretary, and Collector.

VII.—That one-third of the Committee shall annually retire, and their places shall be, by ballot, supplied from the whole body of the Governors, the retiring Members being eligible for re-election.

VIII.—That the Committee shall meet every Monday at two o'clock; that minutes of their proceedings be kept by the Secretary, and be verified at the next ensuing meeting by the signature of the Chairman.

IX.—That at all ordinary Committee Meetings three Members are necessary to constitute a Board.

X.—That the Committee, *specially summoned for the purpose,* shall have power to make bye-laws and regulations for their own government, and the management of the affairs of the Institution. Such bye-laws and regulations shall be submitted to the first succeeding General Meeting of Governors, and shall remain in force until rescinded or renewed by such General Meeting.

XI.—That the Secretary shall, at any time, summon a special meeting of the Committee, upon a requisition made to him in writing by the Patron, President, or Vice-Presidents, the Treasurer, or any three members of the Committee; but the purposes of such meeting must be specified in the requisition, and also in the summonses calling the same: and no

other business can be transacted at such meeting but that which has been so specified.

XII.—That at all Special and General Meetings, seven Governors shall be necessary to form a quorum.

XIII.—That the Medical Officers of this Institution shall be unlimited in number. That all regularly-licensed medical gentlemen, being Governors of this Institution, may be appointed Medical Officers of the Infirmary by the Committee, and as such, may attend at the Infirmary during the hours of business fixed by the Committee, to mesmerise any patients recommended by themselves or by any other Governor who may express a wish in writing to the Committee that such patients shall be under the care of that particular Medical Officer.

XIV.—That the admission of patients be regulated by Members of the Committee selected for that purpose, who shall, in rotation, perform that duty.

XV.—That the privileges of Governors, as to the recommendation of patients, be defined by the amount of their donations or subscriptions. One patient only to be recommended for each annual subscription of £1 : 1; and one patient annually for each donation of £10 : 10. Each Governor, whatever be the amount of his subscription, to be entitled to one vote only, and no annual Subscriber to be entitled to vote whose qualification has been obtained less than six calendar months previously. All subscriptions to become due at Christmas or Midsummer, and to be dated from the nearest the above periods to which they are first paid.

XVI.—That an Annual General Meeting of the Governors shall be held at the Infirmary (or such other convenient place as the Committee may appoint), on the first Wednesday in the month of May, for the purpose of confirming, altering, or rescinding the resolutions of the Committee of the preceding year; provided always that any resolutions for altering or rescinding the regulations adopted by the Committee shall be duly framed and notified in writing to the Secretary at least twenty-one days before such General Meeting.

XVII.—That the Annual General Meeting shall never-

List of Officers.

PRESIDENT.

The RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DUCIE.

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

VISCOUNT ADARE, M.P., F.R.S.
Right Hon. the EARL OF CARLISLE.
The BARON DE GOLDSMID, F.R.S.
J. H. LANGSTON, M.P.
R. MONCKTON MILNES, M.P.
REV. G. SANDBY, jun.
Rev. CHAUNCEY HARE TOWNSHEND.

TREASURER.

DR. ELLIOTSON.

COMMITTEE.

DR. ASHBURNER,
MR. P. P. BLYTH,
MR. J. BRIGGS,
MAJOR BUCKLEY,
MR. T. CHANDLER, } Surgeons,
MR. J. CLARK, }
MR. D. HANDS, Surgeon,
MR. J. FRERE,
MR. J. C. ROBERTSON,
CAPT. the HON. W. F. SCARLETT,
MR. E. S. SYMES, Surgeon,
MR. W. TOPHAM.

Donations and Subscriptions—*(paid)*.

	Dons. £	s.	d.	Ann. Subs. £	s.	d.
Adams, Mr., Surgeon, Lymington	1	1	0			
Adlard, Mr. H., jun., Hatton Garden				1	1	0
Aglionby, Miss, Wigton Hall, Wigton, Cumberland				1	0	0
——— Second Subscription				1	0	0
——— Third Subscription				1	0	0
Akroyd, Mr. Edward, Bankfield, Halifax	5	0	0			
Anonymous, Hampshire	5	0	0			
Ashburner, Dr.	10	0	0	1	1	0
Bagnold, Colonel, 28, Hamilton Ter., St. John's Wood	5	0	0	1	0	0
Brigstock, Mrs, 11, Hyde Park Square				1	1	0
Bailey, Mr. S., Burn Greave, Sheffield	5	0	0			
Baillière, Mr.				1	1	0
——— Second Subscription				1	1	0
——— Third Subscription				1	1	0
Barton, Mr., Gloster Cottage, Boundary Road, St. John's Wood				1	1	0
Batson, Mr. H., 23, Albert Road, Gloster Gate, Regent's Park				5	0	0
Baume, Mr. P. P., Friern Lodge, Barnet, Middlesex	4	10	0			
Bentinck, the Lady Mary				10	0	0
Blyth, Mr. P. P., Sion House, Lower Clapton				5	5	0
Briggs, Mr., Nottingham Place				5	5	0
——— Second Subscription				5	5	0
Briggs, Mr. W., York	10	0	0			
Brine, Mr., South Row, New Road	2	2	0			
Brine, Mrs., ditto	2	2	0			
Brine, Mr.				1	1	0
Brine, Miss				1	1	0
Brine, Miss E.				1	1	0
Brown, Mr. Berry, Hamilton House, St. John's Wood	5	0	0			
Browne, Mr. J., Bridgewater				1	1	0
Browne, Mr. W. ditto				1	1	0
Browning, Miss, 30, Homer Street				1	1	0

	Dons. £	s.	d.	Ann. Subs. £	s.	d.
Buckley, Major, 27A, Bond Street				5	5	0
——— Second Subscription				5	5	0
——— a Friend of	1	0	0			
——— Second Friend of	1	1	0			
Bull, Mr. J., Bridgewater	1	1	0			
Butler, Mr. Edward	1	0	0			
Buxton, Dr., Brownlow Street	5	0	0			
Carlisle, the Right Hon. the Earl of, Grosvenor Place				2	2	0
Chambers, Mr., Ratcliffe Highway				0	10	0
——— Second Subscription				1	1	0
Chandler, Mr., Surgeon, Rotherhithe				1	1	0
——— Second Subscription				1	1	0
Clark, Mr., Surgeon, 3, York Place, Kingsland	1	1	0			
Clarkson, Miss R.	5	0	0			
Collins, Miss E., Brigg				1	1	0
——— Second Subscription				1	1	0
——— Third Subscription				1	1	0
Cook, Rev. Joseph, Purley Hall, Oxfordshire	5	0	0			
Creyke, Mr. Ralph, Rowcliffe Hall, Selby, Yorkshire	5	0	0			
Croft, Col., Shellington Hall, Yorkshire	5	0	0			
Davey, Mr. W.	1	0	0			
Davidson, Captain, 40, Charlotte Street, Portland Place	1	1	0			
Davis, Mr. R., 9, Great St. Helens	12	12	0			
Dobson, Mr., 32, Piccadilly				1	1	0
Dobson, Mrs., ditto				1	1	0
Dodsworth, Sir C., Bart	5	0	0			
Ducie, Earl of	100	0	0			
Edwards, Rev. John, Cheltenham				1	1	0
Elliotson, Dr., F.R.S.	50	0	0			
Ellis, Mr. J. A., Apsley Place, Bristol	5	0	0	1	1	0
Enfield, Mr., Nottingham				1	1	0
Ewart, Mr., M.P., Cambridge Square	5	0	0			
Fletcher, Major, Ulcombe Place, Maidstone				1	1	0
Forbes, Sir Charles, Bart	21	0	0			
Frere, Mr., Stamford Brook, Chiswick	10	0	0	3	3	0
Frend, Mrs.	0	10	0			
Frend, Mr. H. T.	1	0	0			
Garnier, the Lady Harriet	21	0	0			
Goff, Mr. R., 21, Kensington Gore	5	0	0			
Goldsmid, Baron de, F.R.S.	100	0	0			
Gordon, Mr. J. A., Naish, Bristol	50	0	0			
Hamilton, Mr. W. H., 10, St. Andrew's Pl., Regent's Pk.	5	0	0			
Hands, Mr. J., Surgeon, Duke Street, Grosvenor Square	5	5	0			
Hayman, Mr. S., Sidmouth	1	1	0			
Hennen, Mrs., Denmark Hill				1	1	0
Hewes, Mr. J. T., East Lodge, East Greenwich				1	1	0
Hoare, Mr., Deptford				1	1	0
Hodgson, Captain Ellis	1	0	0			
Holland, Mr. James, 6, Laurie Terrace, New Cross				1	1	0
——— Second Subscription				1	1	0
——— Third Subscription				1	1	0
——— Fourth Subscription				1	1	0
Hollings, Mr., Leicester				1	1	0
Hussey, Mr. Edward, Scotney Castle, Lamberhurst	5	0	0			
James, Captain, Littlebourn Rectory, Kent	5	5	0	2	2	0

	Dons. £	s.	d.	Ann. Subs. £	s.	d.
James, Captain John, Littlebourn Rectory, Kent	5	0	0	1	1	0
——— Second Subscription				1	1	0
Janson, Mr. H. U., Pennsylvania Park, Exeter	20	0	0	5	0	0
——— Second Subscription				5	0	0
Johnston, Mr. F. G., Surgeon, Conduit Street	5	0	0			
Kiste, Mr., 37, Maddox Street	6	0	0			
Lang, Mr. W., Glasgow	1	1	0			
Lloyd, Mr., Rockville, Roscommon, Ireland				5	5	0
Luxmoore, Mr. J. C., Alphington, Devon				5	0	0
——— Second Subscription				5	0	0
Majendie, Mr., F.R.S., Hedingham Castle, Essex				1	1	0
Marshall, Mr. James G., Munk Coniston, Ambleside	50	0	0			
Martineau, Mr. R., Edgbarton				1	1	0
Matthews, Miss, Wigton Hall, Cumberland				1	0	0
——— Second Subscription				1	1	0
——— Third Subscription				1	1	0
Miller, Mr., W., 4, Baker St., London St., Brighton				1	1	0
Milnes, Monckton, Mr., M.P., 26, Pall Mall				1	1	0
Moffatt, Mr., M.P., Eaton Square	5	0	0			
Molesworth, the Dowager Lady	5	0	0	1	1	0
——— 2nd Subscription				1	1	0
Molesworth, Miss				1	1	0
——— 2nd Subscription				1	1	0
Morgan, Mrs. Augustus de	1	0	0			
Newnham, Mr., Surgeon, Farnham				1	1	0
——— Second Subscription				1	1	0
Nicoll, Mrs. Hendon				1	1	0
Nicholls, Mr. H. F., Bridgewater				1	1	0
Noyes, Sarah Ann, (a servant cured by Mesmerism after all other means had failed)				1	1	0
Ormerod, Miss, 7, Oriental Place, Brighton	1	0	0	1	1	0
Ormerod, Mr. E.	0	10	0			
Paine, Mr., Farnham				1	1	0
——— Second Subscription				1	1	0
Parker, Mr., Mercer Street, Long Acre	1	1	0			
Patten, Mr. W., 50, Berners Street				1	1	0
Pettit, Mr., 16, Allsop Terrace, New Road				10	10	0
Rhynheart, Mr. J., 21, Great Queen Street, Holborn				1	1	0
Robertson, Rev. T., Blandford Square	5	5	0			
Robertson, Mr., Editor of *Mechanics' Magazine*				2	2	0
Robinson, Mr. A,, 5, Woburn Square				1	1	0
Ruck, Mr. J., Clapham				1	1	0
Sandby, Rev. G., jun.	5	0	0	1	1	0
Scarlett, the Hon. Captain	5	5	0	1	1	0
——— Second Subscription				1	1	0
Selfe, Mr. S., Bridgewater				1	1	0
Shaw, Mr. T. A., Lincoln's Inn Fields				12	0	0
Shepherd, Miss, North Hedden Cottage, Hungerford	1	0	0			
Shepherd, Mr. G., Claremont Place, Dover				1	1	0
Simpson, Dr., York	25	0	0			
Sims, Mr. C., Hubbard's Hall, Essex	5	0	0			
Sims, Rev. H. B., Great Parndon Rectory, Essex	10	10	0			
Skipper, Mr. H., 16, Park Place Villas, Maida Hill, West	10	10	0	5	5	0
——— Second Subscription				5	5	0
——— Third Subscription				5	5	0
——— Fourth Subscription				5	5	0

	Dons. £	s.	d.	Ann. Subs. £	s.	d.
Smith, Mr. Wm. G., jun., 2, Deptford Bridge	1	1	0			
Snewing, Mr. W., Wells Street, Oxford Street				1	1	0
Snewing, Mrs. C., Alpha Pl., Alpha Rd., Regent's Pk.				1	1	0
Snewing, Mr. C., Alpha Pl., Alpha Rd., Regent's Park				1	1	0
Spedding, Miss, Mirehouse, Cumberland	5	0	0			
Spiller, Mr. J., Bridgewater				1	1	0
Stapleton, Mr. W. P., Salcombe Cottage, Sidmouth	10	0	0	1	0	0
Steele, Mr. C. W., Surgeon, Lewisham				1	1	0
Stringer, Mrs., Goodhurst, Kent	2	0	0	1	1	0
Sullivan, Mr. J.	1	1	0			
Symes, Mr., Surgeon, Grosvenor Street	5	5	0			
Symes, Mrs.				1	1	0
——— 2nd Subscription				1	1	0
Tanner, Mrs., Blacklands, Calne, Wilts	5	5	0	2	0	0
——— Second Subscription				2	0	0
——— Third Subscription				2	0	0
Taylor, Mr. Thomas, 12, Duke Street, Borough				1	1	0
Thompson, Mr. H. S., Fairfield House, near York	21	0	0			
Thompson, Mrs., ditto				2	2	0
Topham, Mr. W., Temple	5	0	0			
Townshend, Rev. C. Hare	10	0	0	2	2	0
Trevelyan, Mr. A., Wallington, Morpeth	10	10	0			
Tubbs, Mr. W. J., Surgeon, Upwell Isle, Cambridgeshire				2	2	0
Udall, Mr., Temple				2	2	0
Underwood, Mr. W., Vere Street				1	1	0
Underwood, Mr. C., 13, Holles Street				1	1	0
Upjohn, Mr., Surgeon, 4, Westbourne Villas, Harrow Rd.	1	1	0			
Vernon, Mrs., Warwickshire	1	10	0	1	0	0
Wallace, Miss, 4, Russell Place, Fitzroy Square				1	1	0
Walton and Mitchell, Messrs., 24, Wardour Street	1	1	0	1	1	0
Whitfeld, Mr., Surgeon, Ashford				1	1	0
——— 2nd Subscription				1	1	0
Woods, Mr., 3, Newman Court, Cornhill	5	0	0			
Young, Mrs., Leamington	1	0	0			

DONATIONS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS—*(promised)*.

Adare, Viscount, M.P., F.R.S. Eaton Square	10	0	0	2	2	0
Baldock, Mr. J., H.M. Dockyard, Sheerness				1	1	0
Bell, Mrs.				1	0	0
Bully, M. de, 15, Harley Street	1	0	0			
Deverel, Mr., Purbrook Park, Fareham				2	2	0
Flintoff, Mr. S., Surgeon, 73, Great Titchfield Street	5	0	0			
Flintoff, Mr. H., 12, Orchard Street, Portman Square				1	1	0
Frances, Mrs., 9, Norfolk Crescent, Hyde Park				1	1	0
Hands, Mr. D., Surgeon, Dorset Square	5	0	0			
Heath, Mr., Surgeon Dentist, 123, Edgware Road				1	1	0
Kingdom, Mr. W., Westbourne Terrace, Hyde Park	21	0	0	5	5	0
Langston, Mr., M.P.	100	0	0			
Majendie, Mr., F.R.S., Hedingham Castle, Essex	5	5	0			
Moore, Mr. R. R., Temple				1	1	0
Murray, Mr. T. Lamie, 26, Cornhill	50	0	0			
Swann, Mr. E. G., Roscommon, Ireland				2	2	0
Taylor, Mr. John, Dockeray Hall, Cumberland	1	1	0			

Report

OF THE

FIRST GENERAL MEETING

OF THE SUBSCRIBERS

TO THE

MESMERIC INFIRMARY,

Held at the Infirmary,

9, BEDFORD STREET, BEDFORD SQUARE,

On Monday, May 6th, 1850.

LONDON:

WALTON AND MITCHELL, WARDOUR STREET.

1850.

MESMERIC INFIRMARY.

THE FIRST ANNUAL MEETING of this society was held on Monday, May the 6th, at the Infirmary, 9, Bedford Street, Bedford Square.

Mr. J. A. Gordon, of Bristol, in the absence of the Earl of Ducie through ill health, was called to the chair.

The CHAIRMAN said that it was a subject of deep regret to him and the Committee that the Earl of Ducie was unable to attend that meeting. That nobleman was one of the best friends and supporters of the spread of mesmeric science, and he was sure would share with them the regret felt at his being unable to attend on that occasion. (Cries of hear, hear.) He was sorry that the place of the noble earl should be so ill supplied, as he was aware he was unable to fill it so well as the noble lord; but he trusted to their kind assistance in the performance of its duties.

The Rev. G. SANDBY then read the report of the Committee of Management, which says:—

"A few friends of mesmerism, considering the establishment of an infirmary for the treatment of disease by its means as a very desirable object, met at the Earl of Ducie's, in the year 1846, and passed some preliminary resolutions to that effect. Among the steps taken at that meeting was the appointment of a committee, to whom was entrusted the power of carrying the plan into operation. Sundry circumstances, however, delayed its immediate execution. But in the course of last year it was felt that the time was at length arrived, when any further delay would be undesirable. The progress that mesmerism had made in public opinion, the encreasing number of its advocates, and the growing demands on the part of the sick and the suffering for assistance and advice, all led to the conviction that the Infirmary could be at once opened with every prospect of success. Funds for this purpose were not wanting; for the liberal donations and subscriptions of many kind friends and patrons had afforded the means of taking the necessary initiatory steps. The committee,

therefore, met on the 24th of last July, and, having taken some communications and calculations, that were placed before them, into consideration, came to the resolution of looking out for, and of engaging, a house suitable to the purpose, and of placing it under the superintendence of a resident Manager or Secretary.

"In the course of the month of January the Infirmary came into operation; patients have been attending daily, and are encreasing in number; and an additional mesmeriser, William Fisher, recommended by Mr. Tubbs, Surgeon of Upwell Isle, Cambridgeshire, was appointed at a salary of sixteen shillings per week.

"The Committee have agreed upon several rules and regulations for the direction and management of the Institution, copies of which have been sent to the donors and subscribers, and which are submitted to the consideration of the General Meeting for approval and confirmation.

"The Committee beg to state that a sum, amounting to £903:17, in donations and subscriptions, has been paid into the hands of the Treasurer, and that promises of still further assistance, amounting to about £200 have been also made; to which must be added the sum of £23:0:2, for interest on exchequer bills, making a total of £926:17:2 received.

"The Committee have examined and paid the bills incurred for the furnishing of the Infirmary, and have also paid the first quarter's rent, and the first quarter's salary of the Secretary, amounting in all to the sum of £121:11:6, consequently leaving a balance in the hands of the Treasurer of £805:5:8, of which £506:9:11, has been invested in the purchase of £500 in exchequer bills.

"The Committee have the pleasure of announcing that they have received from P. Baume, Esq., the donation of a freehold estate at Edmonton, which has hitherto been let for a rent of £40 a year, and also of five railway arches at Stepney, which may be estimated at the yearly value of at least five pounds each.

"The Committee, in presenting this their first report to the donors and subscribers to the Infirmary, cannot but congratulate the friends of mesmerism generally on an important step being at length *publicly* taken for the progress of scientific truth, and for the promotion of the great cause of humanity, towards the support of which good and useful work the co-operation of every philanthropist is earnestly invited. The institution, whose recent opening is herein briefly recorded, already shows a promise of growth,—and, if conducted with energy and judgment, and with a due regard to those important considerations, which have respect to the choice of mesmerisers and to the management of its internal arrangements, may prove a source of inappreciable blessings to numbers, and seems, moreover, as an example of practical benevolence to other and older societies, of which it is impossible at this early day to calculate the full results. Doubtless, there are always difficulties connected with the first establishment of every hospital; and there are some to which a mesmeric hospital, more than any other, is peculiarly liable: still, if encountered steadily as well as zealously, and in a spirit of

prudence, union, and good-will, these difficulties are anything but insuperable; and if the regulations, which are adopted by the governors for the daily conduct of the institution be but carefully and uniformly enforced, the success of the Infirmary may be pronounced certain and permanent. To this latter point, however, the Committee attaches considerable weight; and towards a due observance of which they strongly request the assistance of every true friend of mesmerism. By these means, the cavils of the sceptic will be silenced,—the prejudices of the scrupulous be removed,—the misrepresentations of the calumniator be answered,—and the cause of truth grow stronger and stronger every hour. With these observations the Committee beg to close their report, in expressing every confidence in the future prospects of the institution, and in looking forward to a year of encreasing activity and usefulness."

Since the report had been drawn, an addition of £13 : 8 had been received.

Mr. JANSON had great pleasure in moving the adoption of the report, having come a distance of 200 miles to attend the meeting—(Cheers)—and he believed that had all their friends done the same they would have had great difficulty in accommodating them. One principal reason of his attending the meeting was to submit to the subscribers of the institution a manuscript, drawn up by Mr. Capern, of Tiverton, who he believed was the most successful mesmerist since the days of Greatrakes. The manuscript contained reports of upwards of 100 cases, and would be extended by about 50 more, when he hoped it would be published, as containing most surprising and convincing proofs of the truth of the science. (Cheers.) He would now merely move that the report be adopted and circulated among the subscribers to the institution.

Mr. LUXMOORE seconded the resolution. He had for years looked with anxiety to the time when they would be enabled to have an establishment like this in London, feeling convinced that this was all that was wanted to prove the truth of mesmeric science. (Hear, hear.) He believed that mesmerism would prove of great assistance to medical science, though he did not mean to say that it would supersede it. He had himself seen the beneficial effects produced by it in alleviating the sufferings of those afflicted with rheumatism, tic douloureux, paralysis, &c., and he believed that no philanthropist who examined into mesmerism would deny that it was a great addition to the science of alleviating pain and curing disease. The professors of the science had been met with derision and calumny, but he felt that the day would arrive when its success and its truth would be universally acknowledged and the calumnies of its opponents for ever silenced. He felt that they were under a deep debt of gratitude to the gentlemen who had taken an active part in promoting the establishment of this institution, and he had therefore great pleasure in seconding the motion for the adoption of the report.

The motion having been put and carried unanimously,

The SECRETARY read the proposed laws of the institution, to which the following is the preface:—"This Infirmary is established for the alleviation and cure of diseases, and for the relief and prevention of pain, by means of mesmerism. It is supported by the voluntary contributions of those persons who, having faith in the remedial efficacy of mesmerism, or being desirous to be assured of the truth of the extraordinary cures alleged to have been effected by its agency in the hands of many credible and respectable persons, are anxious that the poor should have the opportunity of availing themselves of the advantages it may afford. There is another object which the originators of this new establishment have in view. They desire to extend the field of observation in the science of mesmerism, and to encourage the promulgation as well as the cultivation of its truths without favour to any party or to any limited or individual interests."

[The proposed laws for the management of the institution were then read.]

Mr. MONCKTON MILNES, M.P., moved the adoption of the proposed laws, and trusted that it would go forth to the public that the friends of mesmeric science were now prepared to put the truth of their principles to the test in the heart of the metropolis, through the agency of a public hospital. He believed that, through the agency of such an institution, mesmerism would take its fair position as a branch of medical science, and he was sure that this was all its real friends wished. (Hear, hear.) They all knew that mesmerism exhibited some most extraordinary psychological phenomena, and perhaps no subject could be of greater interest to philosophical inquiries than those phenomena; but, at the same time, he thought it most important that this institution should as little as possible interfere with those inquiries, and confine their attention as much as possible to the application of mesmerism as a curative agent in diseases which might come under their notice. (Hear, hear.) He thought it very important that it should go forth to the public what were the real objects and intentions of the institution, so that it might avoid as far as possible any imputation of quackery, which, no doubt, would be brought against it. If, however, the society quietly carried on its operations under the eye of the public, under the notice of the press, but excluding idle curiosity from interfering with its patients, he had no doubt that it would make its way and establish itself in public opinion. (Hear, hear.) He considered that nothing could more clearly show the progress that their science —of the truth of which he had long been convinced—was making than the fact that the *Edinburgh Review*, in an article upon Mr. Cornewall Lewis's work, *On the Influence of Authority in the Formation of Public Opinion*, had devoted three or four pages to the recognition of the truth of mesmeric science. (Hear, hear, hear.) It was most important to the spread of their science that medical men had recently adopted various anæsthetic agents for producing insensibility to pain during the performance of operations; and he

did not think they need look upon these with any degree of jealousy as rivals to their progress. (Hear, hear.) Indeed, mesmerism might be found peculiarly adapted to some constitutions, while other anæsthetic agents might be adapted to other constitutions. He could not help feeling that they ought to take some shame to themselves for not having before put themselves into a position to have the agency of mesmerism acknowledged by the medical profession, through the establishment of an institution of this description, and allowing the advantages of the other anæsthetic agents to be acknowledged while they were doing nothing. It was a most remarkable circumstance in the history of all physiological discoveries, however important, that they were ignored for years until their importance forced them upon public attention: and so it was with mesmerism—it was undergoing the ordeal to which all great and valuable truths were subjected, and he considered that they had no reason to complain of this, as the importance of their science must be ultimately acknowledged and the truth prevail. (Cheers.) After again urging upon the company the necessity of the institution strictly confining themselves to the use of mesmerism as a curative operation, and eschewing experiments, the honourable member concluded by moving the adoption of the rules.

The Rev. G. SANDBY seconded the resolution, agreeing as he did with every word uttered, and the recommendation given, by Mr. Monckton Milnes. He had had an opportunity of observing with his own eyes the soothing effects and curative influences of mesmerism, and he felt convinced that they had only to be brought prominently under the notice of the public, through the means of an hospital, to be generally and fully acknowledged. (Cheers.) It was a most remarkable fact, and one of which they ought to be ashamed, that a Mesmeric Hospital had not been established in civilized Europe—had not been established in the centre of this great metropolis—had not been fostered in scientific society, but had been established in what Shakespeare called "the furthest steppes of India." He thought all honour was due to Dr. Esdaile, who had established that hospital, and to the Governor General and other Indian authorities who had fostered it, it having proved eminently successful in alleviating human pain. He perfectly agreed with Mr. Monckton Milnes in his observations that the science had made and was making great strides, and was proved by its being acknowledged as a science by so important and cautious an authority as the *Edinburgh Review*. That journal said that, after inquiry, no doubt, "its errors, which probably are many, will be separated from, what we may be sure are also many, its truths." No doubt they might have errors, as other sciences had in their infancy, but Mr. Cornewall Lewis had called theirs a "mock" science. It might be a "mock" science in one respect, but this was that it "mocked" all the ignorant attempts of their opponents to put it down. (Cheers and laughter.) But the editor of the *Edinburgh Review* said, in speaking of the phenomena of mesmerism—"No one can doubt that

phenomena like these deserve to be observed, recorded, and encouraged; and whether we call by the name of mesmerism or by any other name the science which proposes to do this, is a mere question of nomenclature. Among those who profess this science there may be careless observers, prejudiced recorders, and rash systematisers; their errors and defects may impede the progress of knowledge, but they will not stop it; and we have no doubt that before the end of the century the wonders which now perplex almost equally those who accept and those who reject modern mesmerism will be distributed into defined classes and found subject to ascertained laws; in other words, will become the subject of a science." Now, that was just what they had been saying for years, and it was to prove their science that their infirmary had been established. (Hear, hear.) They wished to extend the advantages of mesmerism to the very poorest of their fellow-subjects, and to shew to the world the truth of their principles. He would not further detain them, but second the resolution for the confirmation of the rules of the society.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. Tubbs proposed that certain noblemen and gentlemen should be officers and members of the committee for the ensuing year; and observed that he felt incompetent to give expression to the pleasurable sensations he experienced in having the honour of being present at an assemblage of gentlemen, who not only claimed distinction from the high position which they held in society, but from the great talents they possessed as to the business of the meeting, and as to every other subject of interest which related to the well-being of mankind generally, or to the pleasure he felt on being spared (through all his trials) to visit that establishment for the progress of a science so long abused as it had been. He (Mr. Tubbs) had been located in an obscure (as he might call it) village in Cambridgeshire, whose leading and most influential members had not been celebrated for being foremost in the promotion of philosophical enquiries, and whose opinions on such enquiries had been sufficient to give a death-blow to everything they might consider to be in opposition to their prejudices. He could assure the meeting that he had met with those whom the world called educated men, abounding with the strongest and most invincible prejudice, and not to succumb to them would be thought the worst of heresy; but fortunately for him and the cause of mesmerism the spot contained a few spirits as ardent in the cause as himself, some as deeply metaphysical and as capable of judging of the truth of mesmerism as anywhere existed; and though they could not rank with princes, they were, he was happy to say, justly entitled to rank with men of genius; aided by whose encouragement, the pen of one friend and his own convictions, he had, under all the frowns of the rich, the sneers of the vulgar and illiterate, for a time pursued the favoured science with unabated zeal. But such were the effects which slander had upon the public mind, that his (Mr. Tubbs's) practice diminished, his enemies were triumphant, his *best friends* deserted him, and even his sanity was questioned.

At length he succumbed to their prejudices, and like the apothecary in *Romeo and Juliet* could say,

"My *poverty*, and not my *will* consents."

But as time rolled on and more auspicious circumstances surrounded him, he was enabled to defy the effects of that public venom which he had before given way to. He again entered with redoubled vigour into the pursuits of mesmerism, and had the gratification of stating that many had become converts, through him, who had strongly denied every phenomenon that he produced; and though formerly drones in the hive, were now become industrious bees in the cause of mesmerism. Supported as the science was by the gentlemen he had the honor of addressing, many of whom were in themselves a host, he should remain in future a dauntless promoter of its cause. Mr. Tubbs then expressed a hope that the meeting would be the means of giving to mesmerism a local habitation and a name. He also alluded to the advantages he had had over the Devonshire Greatrakes (Mr. Capern) in having performed minor operations in the sleep, and mentioned the case of Margaret Francis whose leg he attempted to amputate, but was prevented by the interference of the sister, and sooner than it should be called a failure under mesmerism he took it off under chloroform, but after the operation always dressed the stump under mesmerism without her knowledge. Having expressed his determination to pursue the same straightforward course for years to come that he had hitherto done, and wishing success to the establishment, Mr. Tubbs resumed his seat.

Mr. Capern said he rose with considerable diffidence to second the resolution, from a conviction that the assembly was composed of individuals of rank, station, and high attainments, and that his situation in life made him the humblest person there; but although diffident and inadequate to do justice to so important a science, to propagate which was the object of the meeting, yet he had confidence because of its value and importance. He had therefore great pleasure in seconding the resolution of Mr. Tubbs, and begged respectfully to explain what first influenced him to pay attention to the mysterious power of mesmerism or vital magnetism. About four years since, having attended a lecture given by the talented mesmerist Mr. Davey, and observing the great phenomena produced, he was induced on his third lecture to ascend the platform and assist in the operations by demesmerising one of the persons who had been placed in a state of coma. From that period he became subject to severe remarks and unjust criticism. On further investigating the subject, and after some suggestions from Mr. Davey as to the application of mesmerism as curative, he commenced his operations, and was pleased with some cases in which relief from pain was the result. The first case of importance was that of John Rowden, whom he met accidentally as he was going with difficulty to his labour.* On being questioned as

* See No. XXVI., p. 169.—*Zoist.*

to the nature of his disease, Rowden stated that the limp in his walk was occasioned by his having had severe rheumatism for thirteen years, and that he was never free from pain. Mr. Capern invited Rowden to accompany him into the lodge of Mr. Heathcoat's manufactory, and, after a few passes made on his leg, he felt a glow of heat, much more so than he had for a long time, and then walked with him nearly to the residence of his master, Thos. Talley, Esq., on the road-side a few more passes being made down the thigh and leg. From that time he dates his cure, although he occasionally experienced slight pains on sudden changes of weather, or after exposure to heavy rains. Such was his improvement after the first passes that Mr. Capern was put in a state of perspiration in walking with the poor labourer, who before had frequently stopt and cried from his inability to keep pace with his fellow workmen. Having thus succeeded, Mr. Capern extended his operations, and has devoted nearly the whole of his time to them, and been instrumental in affording relief to hundreds of persons. In so doing he had been subject to misrepresentations, abuse, and insult, even when returning from visiting the sick chamber. He had been pointed at with a sneer. The words "madman" and "maniac" and "humbug" had been used, and most frequently by persons who had known him from his childhood. As to the terms madman and maniac he was careless about them, for the brain may be diseased or there may be a defect in the organization; but the term humbug he did and would repudiate. However, he was determined to persevere, knowing that the science was based on eternal truth, and would prevail when its calumniators were laid low and forgotten. To find his nearest relatives determinedly hostile to it gave him very great pain; but nothing would prevent him from proving its importance; no sacrifice would have been too great. Having proved this at Tiverton, he now stated it in the metropolis, amidst two and a half millions of human beings, and was desirous to promulgate that such a power existed. Notwithstanding so many proofs were adduced, scepticism prevailed, and in order to furnish the public with information, he had invited the whole of the clergy and dissenting ministers, the medical and professional gentlemen, the authorities, and the principal families of Tiverton, to meet at the mayoralty room, for the purpose of investigating the phenomena of mesmerism as a remedial agent. Nearly forty persons were severally introduced and proved its efficacy to the satisfaction of that very respectable assembly. By far the greater number had been under medical treatment, and they had all been cured of almost every variety of diseases to which we are subjected. Previously to this explanation many of those present would not have allowed the word "mesmerism" to be used at their residences; and one gentleman, who came to the room to laugh it down, stated that he had visited, in his character as clergyman, one of the patients who had been cured of paralysis, and whom he believed at the time to be on his dying bed; but the patient was, however, there to tell by whose instrumentality he was restored. Since that time several have made the "*amende honorable.*" The cases referred to will appear in the

work, the manuscript of which Mr. Janson had kindly introduced. The whole would amount to 150 cases; and, had it been necessary, a large number might have been added, say hundreds: he had never kept a list. Suffice it to say that he has been at all times ready to assist any one, and frequently does not know the parish they are from. The statements will bear any investigation.* He should have no objection to his cases being examined by a commission, of which Mr. Wakley should be one. His patients were all strong and healthy. His operations were not confined to weak enervated persons. A great number were muscular agricultural labourers who in the west of England, particularly in Devonshire, from sudden changes of temperature are subject to very severe rheumatic pains, and these generally disappear after two or three applications of the sanatory influence. Some of them have walked a distance of sixteen miles in order to have a sitting of about ten minutes. He has more pleasure in assisting them who need it than the richest baronet in Devonshire has in the enjoyment of his estates. Having probably been rather irregular, he said, in his observations, he apologized to the gentlemen and ladies present for occupying their time: but it afforded him infinite pleasure to be in the building applied to such holy purposes, and see persons daily engaged in diffusing health and strength to those who need it, by a power which we all possess.

Mr. Luxmoore proposed thanks to the committee and medical officers.

Mr. W. G. Smith, jun., of Greenwich, (who will be remembered as the mesmeriser of the boy, James Cook, of Deptford, some six years since,) seconded it, and begged to add his testimony to the truth of mesmerism. He said he was not a professional man, but an amateur in mesmerism. His first essay was the result of accident. Having attended a lecture and seen persons he knew thrown into the sleep, he, out of curiosity, tried his father's shop boy. The effect produced, every one conversant with mesmerism at the time will recollect. The patient remained in the mesmeric state for three days. His motive for now mentioning the case was that an impression had got abroad, prejudicial to the cause, "that the boy James Cook was dead." Mr. S. had been induced some three years since, in consequence of those reports, and at the request of Dr. Elliotson and Mr. Chandler, to publish the case in *The Zoist*.* Mr. Smith was happy to state the last account he heard of James Cook was that he was well and hearty. Mesmerism, instead of injuring him, had been the means subsequently of greatly improving his health. Mr. S., since that event, had ample opportunities of testing the benefits of mesmerism. A case of St. Vitus's dance of the very worst description, where the patient had lost his speech and the use of his limbs, and after trying every remedy medical aid could suggest, was at the present time, by a judicious application of mesmerism, quite

* See No. XXVI., p. 165.—*Zoist*.

restored. The case was known to Dr. Elliotson, who was consulted by the parents of the child, and recommended mesmerism. Mr. S. wished the institution success, and pledged himself to use all his influence in making its benefits known.

Mr. Heath, Dr. Macdonald, and several other gentlemen addressed the meeting, and adduced instances to shew the advantages of mesmeric science, the whole of them stating that they were originally opposed to it until convinced by enquiry of its truth; and also detailed the difficulties they had had in promulgating it among society generally.

Dr. Ashburner proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman, and the meeting broke up.

MESMERIC INFIRMARY,

9, BEDFORD STREET, BEDFORD SQUARE.

Supported by Voluntary Contributions.

President, THE EARL OF DUCIE.
Treasurer, DR. ELLIOTSON.
Secretary & Resident Superintendent, MR. CAPERN.

Attendance from Ten till Four.

A Subscriber of One Guinea per Annum, has the privilege of recommending a Patient, and witnessing the progress of the Cure.

REPORT

OF THE

ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

MESMERIC INFIRMARY,

HELD AT

The Institution,

No. 9, BEDFORD STREET,

BEDFORD SQUARE,

On WEDNESDAY, the 7th of MAY, 1851.

LONDON:

WALTON & MITCHELL, WARDOUR STREET, OXFORD STREET.

MESMERIC INFIRMARY.

The annual meeting of the friends and subscribers of this institution was held on Wednesday, May 7, at the Infirmary, No. 9, Bedford Street, Bedford Square—

The Rev. George Sandby, *in the chair.*

The Chairman opened the proceedings by expressing his regret at the unavoidable absence of their president, the Earl of Ducie, and a number of their noble and influential supporters. At the same time, he could not but congratulate them on the progress their institution had made during the past year. They would see by the report that there had been a great variety of cases treated most successfully. He had been in the habit of frequently attending the hospital, and had invariably found the committee sedulously attentive to their duties, and the mesmerisers performing their various offices in the most efficient manner. He was happy to say that their funds were also improving and several donations had been sent to them. Amongst these donations, he was proud to tell them, was one from the Archbishop of Dublin, who invariably followed out the truth faithfully and fearlessly in all matters, and also one from Earl Stanhope. Besides these, many other zealous and kind friends had rallied round them, and he thought they were justified in saying they were steadily and progressively forming an important nucleus amongst themselves, the effect of which would be felt through the kingdom. But, whilst he expressed his pleasure at finding so many had joined them, he could not refrain from avowing his regret that there were several distinguished persons who had benefited from their system whose names were still wanting. (Hear, hear.) He could not, however, help thinking that their absence was rather a proof of the strength of their institution than of its weakness, although that might appear paradoxical. For when they first commenced operations they were confined to a small body: but they rallied round each other, confident in their hopes of success. Time passed on, and this, like all other great and important truths, could now afford to have subdivi-

sions amongst its disciples. They must all be aware that there were differences of opinion amongst the adherents of mesmerism on several points—some leaning to spiritual, some to material,* and some to physiological views; but, however,

* That Mr. Sandby may not be misconceived, we insert our following passage from No. XXI., p. 112:—"*Materialism.*—So uninformed are most persons, that we every day hear men spoken of with horror as materialists. Now a man may be not only most conscientious, but most devout; nay, be a sincere and fervent Christian, aye, and a trinitarian Christian too; and most evangelical,—and yet be a materialist. That is, a man who believes that the matter of his organized and living brain is endowed with such properties that it wills, feels, and thinks, and that these *by nature* decay and cease for ever with the brain at its decay, death and disintegration, may also believe that, by the will of God, by an additional and miraculous grant, they will exist again with a brain reproduced but, however glorified, still matter; according to the Fourth Article of the Church of England, which asserts that Christ, the first fruits of them that slept, sits at the right hand of the Father, with 'his body, with flesh, bones, and all things appertaining to the perfection of man's nature.' We urge this, because we know that many excellent persons who take such a view of a future state are vilified and called atheists, infidels, sceptics, and cruelly injured, from the total ignorance of the majority of people, even of the higher ranks, that, though the term materialist is sometimes used to signify an atheist, it has another and most innocent signification, relating, not to supernatural things, but to an innocent opinion on a natural thing. Yes; a man may be a true Christian, of any protestant denomination, though not of the Roman Catholic persuasion, and yet be a materialist. We beg those who have not reflected much on this subject, but think, as parrots talk, by imitation, to read Bishop Law's *Theory of Religion*, Bishop Sherlock's *Discourses*, Bishop Watson's *Anecdotes* of his own Life, and Archbishop Tillotson."

Locke says, "All the difficulties that are raised against the thinking of matter, from our ignorance or narrow conceptions, stand not at all in the way of the power of God, if he pleases to ordain it so." The faculties of brutes prove, "either that God can and doth give to some parcels of matter a power of perception and thinking, or that all animals have immaterial and consequently immortal souls as well as men; and to say that fleas and mites, &c., have immortal souls as well as men, will possibly be looked on as going a great way to serve an hypothesis."—*Second Reply to the Bishop of Worcester*, p. 466., 8vo. edition.

Dr. Law, Bishop of Carlisle, in his *Theory of Religion*, &c., which went through seven editions, asserts that the sentence of death passed upon Adam and Eve meant nothing less than a *total destruction of existence;* and that the idea of its implying a continuation of consciousness and real existence in some other place than earth, is not sanctioned by Scripture, but is the *philosophy of after-ages*.—p. 345. He adds, that Archbishop Tillotson, though a patron of this notion, confesses it is not found in the Bible: and, after a critical and elaborate examination of the words used in Scripture to denote *soul* and *spirit*, and their various applications, he sums up the enquiry thus:—"But neither do *these words*, nor any other, so far as I can find, *ever* stand for a *purely immaterial principle* in man, or a substance, whatever some imagine they mean by that word, wholly separable from, and independent of, the body."

Bishop Sherlock employs strong expressions:—"Scholars may reason on the nature of the soul, and the condition of it when separated from the body: but the common hopes of nature receive no support from such enquiries. We die and moulder to dust; and in that state, what we are, or where we are, nature cannot say." *Discourses* ii., p. 85, and vol. iv., p. 79.

"In the ordinary derivation of plants and animals," says Paley, "from one another, a *particle*, in many cases minuter than all assignable, all conceivable dimensions; an aura, an effluvium, an infinitesimal; determines the organization of a future body: does no less than fix, whether that which is about to be pro-

divergent their opinions might be on some points, he trusted they would all join heart and hand in the promulgation of the truth of the one great cause they had in view. Their object was to relieve and alleviate suffering humanity in every shape and form. (Cheers.) Therefore, in a great cause like that, it behoved every sect, every creed, to unite and give a helping hand, both by their persons and their purses. (Hear, hear.) He believed the time was not far distant when the medical profession would also be converts to their system, and rally round them in their works of charity and love, and when the sons would blush to think that their fathers had been the foes of mesmerism—(cheers)—and when the hospitals would be anxious to have their assistance and support. There was one part of the report to which he felt particularly anxious to direct their attention. A proposition had been made that the committee should have the power of adding ladies to their number. This might seem rather a novel proceeding, but he hoped that it would be received favourably, for there were many reasons of a peculiar nature, which it was unnecessary for him to mention, why such a suggestion was exceedingly advisable. The presence of ladies would, in a great measure, silence all the suspicions of low and vulgar minds, who, conscious of their own iniquity, judged others by themselves. (Cheers.) To the ladies they were already greatly indebted, for, through their instrumentality, mesmerism had been introduced into families with the greatest success. In supporting this institution, they all had two grand objects in view, the extension of a great truth, and the alleviation of much human suffering and the cure of grievous complaints. The rev. gentleman concluded by calling upon Dr. Elliotson, the treasurer, to read the report.

duced shall be a vegetable, a merely sentient, or a RATIONAL *being;* an oak, a frog, or a *philosopher;* makes all these differences; gives to the future body its qualities, and nature, and species. And this *particle,* from which *springs,* and by which is determined, a whole future nature, itself *proceeds* from, and owes its constitution to, a prior body," &c.—*Natural Theology*, conclusion, p. 591.

Bishop Watson says, "when I went to the University, I was of opinion, as most schoolboys are, that the soul was a substance distinct from the body, and that when a man died, he, in classical phrase, breathed out his soul, *animam expiravit;* that it then went I knew not whither, as it had come into the body, from I knew not where nor when, and had dwelt in the body during life, but in what part of the body it had dwelt I knew not." "This notion of the soul was, without doubt, the offspring of prejudice and ignorance."—"Believing as I do in the truth of the Christian religion, which teaches that men are accountable for their actions, I trouble not myself with dark disquisitions concerning necessity and liberty, matter and spirit; hoping as I do for eternal life through Jesus Christ, I am not disturbed at my inability clearly to convince myself that the soul is or is not a substance distinct from the body."—*Anecdotes of the Life of Bishop Watson*, p. 14. sqq.

The following Report was then read:—

"It was at the house of the Earl of Ducie, on the 9th of January, 1846, that the London Mesmeric Infirmary was founded: and, on the 25th of March, 1850, the committee sent a notice to every donor and subscriber that this house was open for the mesmerisation of patients. At first the committee did not feel justified in engaging more than one mesmeriser, the secretary himself promising to mesmerise at least two patients daily. But, on the 10th of June, they engaged a second. These two persons were William Fisher and Charles Mayhew, both recommended by Mr. Tubbs, surgeon, of Upwell, Cambridgeshire, and previously employed by him to his satisfaction as mesmerisers. During the last month, a third, a married woman, recommended by Dr. Ashburner, was engaged: and all three perform their duties satisfactorily,—with regularity, diligence, care, kindness, and propriety.

"The committee are most happy to inform the donors and subscribers that, since the 17th of November, they have had the services of Mr. Capern as secretary; the former secretary having resigned. Of Mr. Capern's mesmeric strength to assuage suffering and cure disease, of his devotion to the healing powers of mesmerism, of his indefatigableness, his disinterestedness and benevolence, they need not speak. He has fulfilled all the expectations which were formed of him from his previous history. He is present in the public rooms of the Institution from 10 till 4 o'clock, mesmerises many patients himself, and superintends the processes of the three mesmerisers, who attend daily, except Sunday, from 10 till 4 o'clock, and are allowed each, but not all at the same time, an hour in the middle of the day for dinner.

"The committee meet every Wednesday at two o'clock, and a complete account of the work of every day is read to them:—the history of each patient during the preceding week is detailed: his or her attendance, the length of time that he or she was mesmerised, the name of the mesmeriser, the mode of mesmerising and the effects, together with the remedial results which were observed at the end of the week. Fresh applicants are seen by the committee and examined by its medical members, and those persons who cease to be patients present and report themselves.

"Ninety-one patients have been mesmerised,—54 males and 37 females: 29 are at present on the books,—19 males and 10 females. The greater part of the diseases have been palsy, neuralgia, rheumatism, epilepsy, St. Vitus's dance, and intense nervousness: and nearly all the cases had been of

long duration before they came under our care, and had resisted various and frequently severe modes of treatment under numerous well-informed medical gentlemen. Their chronic character rendered it impossible for mesmerism to produce many rapid cures. This circumstance, and the engagements and difficulties of the poor, together with the frequency of impatience, fickleness, and childishness common among human beings of all ranks, caused many to give up our services before a fair trial was made: and, indeed, some after a few visits. With the majority of those who received no benefit, or no permanent benefit, this was the fact: and they amount to 28. Twenty-four left before their cure was complete, but were more or less benefitted, and many very much benefitted, so that they were able and desirous to return to their employments.

"Some very striking cases have occurred. We may mention one of epilepsy in a child who was brought above a year ago. Not only has there been no fit for above six months, though previously the attacks were frequent and severe, but the child's appearance and general health have undergone a remarkable improvement—a circumstance which mesmerisers are in the habit of witnessing, whatever may be the disease.

"There is an equally satisfactory cure of epilepsy in another child.

"A child, with a leg shortened through disease of the hip, was received at the end of November: and on the 14th of April the father, who had previously procured the best treatment for his boy in vain, declared that the amelioration had exceeded all his expectations, and the improvement in the general health was remarkable. The child is still under treatment, and may be seen.

"On the 9th of last April, a man applied with an almost total inability to open his mouth, and an inability to swallow anything but fluids; and those he swallowed with extreme difficulty, so that he feared being starved. He had received public and private medical attendance for several weeks, and been informed that his complaint was palsy of the mouth and throat; and so indeed it was, but from cold, not from internal disease. One local mesmerisation by Mr. Capern enabled him in ten minutes to swallow his saliva, and on returning home he ate a rasher of bacon: and by repetitions of the treatment he has been enabled to eat all solids at his meals and to return to his work.

"A man, 75 years of age, who laboured under palsy of one side of his system and had received no benefit before,

can now walk many miles a day. He is still under treatment and may be seen. The very first day he felt the mesmeric influence like a hot steam.

"A very remarkable case is that of a dumb boy, 14 years of age, who had been palsied from his birth and totally unable to walk. He had been in many hospitals and under many private medical gentlemen: and been refused admission into St. Bartholomew's Hospital from the conviction of the medical officer that his case was hopeless. He was first mesmerised on the 2nd of February, and an improvement was discernible after the first mesmerisation. After the sixth he could positively walk across the room without assistance, and, on the 27th of March, he walked from the Infirmary into Tottenham Court Road. He is still under treatment and may be seen. His father was lately absent from town, and on his return was astonished at the improvement.

"A dreadful case of despondency, with pains and noises in the head, giddiness, and dimness of sight, in a man 56 years of age, is yielding in a remarkable manner. Various medical gentlemen did their best, but in vain; and month after month life became a greater burden to him. He was admitted here in April, and now makes the following statement:—'All my accumulated afflictions have been gradually subsiding; indeed, some of them, the giddiness and noises in the head, together with the great nervous oppression and dismal gloomy forebodings, have already left me, never, I hopefully trust, to return. My hearing and my eyesight are progressing favourably, the latter most especially, as I can now read better without glasses than I could see to read with them previously to being mesmerised.' This patient is still under treatment, and may be seen.

"We must not pass over the case of Catherine Brown, 7, King's Head-yard, Tooley-street, 57 years of age. When seven years old she fell down in a fit, and was unconscious for twenty-four hours. She had a similar attack monthly till she became a patient here, last February; and, for seven or eight days after the fit, she was invariably so weak as to be unable to attend to her avocations, and indeed was at no time able to attend to them properly. She suffered agonizing pains. She was treated by numerous medical gentlemen in London and in Ireland, without the least benefit. Her agonies frequently made her contemplate self-murder. She was three times in Guy's Hospital and twice in St. Thomas's, the last time for four months. She applied to a dispensary also, and the surgeon told her she had tic douloureux; and, in attempting to extract several of her teeth, broke some of

them. From the first attack, above 44 years ago, she was never free from pain, and took large quantities of laudanum when under medical treatment. She saw Mr. Capern early in February, and he mesmerised her head with contact for a quarter of an hour. The pain instantly and entirely ceased; and from that moment she has not experienced the slightest pain, nor has she had a fit. On leaving the infirmary that day she called upon her niece at Islington, and, feeling a great desire to sleep, sat down in a chair and fell into a sleep so profound that her relatives were alarmed, and supposed that her doctor had given her too large a dose of laudanum. She woke spontaneously in four hours, greatly refreshed, and has remained well to this very time.

"We trust that the public will soon be satisfied of mesmerism being beneficial not only in such diseases as those hitherto treated here, but in every other: curing by itself in some instances, and in others powerfully aiding the medical and surgical measures of established utility that may be proper, nay indispensable.

"Many cases cannot be treated mesmerically unless the patients reside in the mesmeric institution; and, as long as the general hospitals refuse the benefit of mesmerism to their inmates, the poor must suffer grievously from our pecuniary inability to meet the difficulty. But we feel a strong conviction that the day is not far distant when the public sympathy will enable us by increased funds to receive in-patients.

"Donors have presented to the Infirmary £899 : 8 : 0. We have 118 annual subscribers, who, with one lately deceased, have contributed from the commencement £352 : 10 : 0, and the 118 contribute annually £197 : 19 : 0. We receive about £12 as the interest of five exchequer bills. We have £884 : 4 : 3½ in hand.

"Our chief expenses are for rent, rates, and taxes, nearly £100 : 0 : 0; and for salaries £218 : 0 : 0. Various other matters have cost about £20 : 0 : 0 during the last 12 months.

"We trust that some leasehold property promised us by Mr. Beaume will produce us about £50 per annum; and Mr. Capern has generously declared that as soon as we grant leases he will present us with 20 guineas.

"The world is becoming every day better informed as to the reality, the curative and assuaging power, and the innocence of mesmerism: and the English medical profession is now emancipating itself from the unfortunate feelings which overpowered it from the time, now above 12 years ago, when the college and hospital, their council and medical professors, within a few yards on one side of the spot where we are now

assembled, scouted mesmerism with contumely, not enquiring for a moment whether it was useful or true, and forbade its presence within their walls: and when Mr. Wakley, within a few yards on the other side of the spot where we are now assembled, loudly declared to mankind that mesmerism was an entire fraud, and that all those who promoted it were cheats and impostors unworthy to be associated with by respectable medical men. We, therefore, trust that our donors and subscribers will steadily encrease, and our means prove sufficient for the holy cause in which we are engaged. The support hitherto given to us has been all but unsolicited. We have not had a sermon, a public dinner, a ball or a bazaar: nor do I know of more than one donor and one subscriber brought to us by solicitation. The matter has been one of extreme delicacy up to this time. But, as the truth and importance of mesmerism are now so extensively acknowledged, no one need longer to hesitate in advocating the cause of mesmeric charity before all men, in season and out of season. Persons apply every week for admission into the Infirmary for whom we have no room:—so much has the fame of mesmeric remedial power spread, and so quickly is that gross ignorance vanishing which connected the simple and natural process of mesmerising with Satan.

"We have received £141 : 0 : 0 in donations since the former general meeting: and had an increase of 32 annual subscribers, whose payments will amount to £65 : 19 : 0 annually. May the ensuing twelvemonth prove still more prosperous. The committee are anxious to propose to the meeting what they believe will be a great improvement. A lady, the wife of a distinguished mathematician and philosopher, proposed to Dr. Elliotson that ladies should be upon the committee, and offered to join if other ladies would do the same. He at once highly approved of the plan, and mentioned it to the committee, who equally approve of it. Such a measure must be advantageous in many respects, as, in addition to our having female patients, we now employ a female mesmeriser.

"Mr. Holme, of Highgate, has kindly placed the whole of his phrenological collection in the hands of the institution, to be returned whenever we think fit, or his son, now very young may, after coming of age, may desire to have it. The strong alliance between mesmerism and phrenology caused the committee to regard the offer of a fine phrenological collection as too valuable to be slighted; and they have Mr. Holme to give occasional gratuitous discourses upon it after the mesmeric business of the day is over."

Mr. Hollings, in moving the adoption of the report, could not refrain from adding his own expressions of deep and unfeigned satisfaction to those already pronounced by the Chairman, at the present condition of mesmerism in its character of a curative agent, as testified not only by the meeting, but by the growing convictions of the great body of the public at large. Fifteen years have now elapsed since experiments were first made upon an extensive scale, and under the direction of distinguished medical authority, in this country, for the purpose of testing the reality of the phenomena of animal magnetism, and the applicability of what is called the mesmeric state to the alleviation of various forms of suffering and disease. Of the spirit in which the results of such experiments were extensively, and perhaps not unnaturally, received, few among those who were present need be reminded. Nor would he (Mr. Hollings) attempt to infuse a single element of bitterness into the deliberations of the assembly, by adverting, in any but the most casual manner, to the unjust, the uncandid, and the most unphilosophical temper by which an opposition almost universal was at that time characterized. If this opposition, however disreputable, however unjustifiable in its manner, was the result of sincere and honest conviction, it is to a certain extent to be respected. If it arose from unreflecting and unenquiring prejudice, it is to be lamented. If it was prompted in any single instance by personal enmity, by professional rivalry, or by jealous self-interest, it is to be forgiven. Fifteen years however have elapsed—fifteen years of open and unremitting controversy—during which, whatever other means of refutation may have been neglected, the motives, the objects, the judgment, and even the characters of the friends of mesmerism, will generally be acknowledged to have been in no single instance either respected or spared. But, after all the employment of counter-arguments upon this subject, or of a method of antagonism to which men are but too apt to have recourse where argument itself is wanting, what is the result? At the present moment there is scarcely an intelligent mind in Great Britain, which does not acknowledge that there is reality in at least what we may call the normal characteristics of the mesmeric sleep; in other words, that its ordinary and easily induced phenomena of coma, of cataleptic rigidity, of insensibility more or less complete to impressions from without, are true effects of a specific and independent, however mysterious, cause; although such conditions were formerly, almost without distinction, regarded either as mere hallucinations in the mind of the operator, or, so far as the patient

was concerned, as instances of audacious and palpable fraud. In many quarters institutions are arising with the express view to the application of these conditions to medical purposes, and everywhere with the promise of extensive support. The names of men widely eminent in science and in literature, of the highest professional standing, of well-known authority in the church, in the senate, in the state, are being daily added to the already numerous list of the defenders and sustainers of this once contemned and vilified cause. We look to the neighbouring continent, and we find that the researches of one of the most original and philosophic minds of the age —he (Mr. Hollings) alluded to the recent experiments of the Baron Von Reichenbach—have succeeded in tracing, through the means of mesmerism, the existence, and in some measure the laws, of an entirely new material agency, upon the importance or the ultimate applications of which no man at the present time can venture to pronounce. Or we turn to that vast theatre of wealth, of promise, and of teeming humanity, presented by our Eastern dependencies; and what do we there behold? That which no one, who is not wholly insensible to the interests of his fellow beings, can regard without emotion, without gratitude, without delight. We see a flourishing and already celebrated public hospital, founded under the direct auspices of the British Government, and directed by medical skill and experience second to none in Europe, in which the power of the mesmeric state both as curative and anæsthetic is a matter of daily, nay, of almost hourly demonstration. We are told of the most agonizing and protracted operations,—the removal, for instance, of tumors, in some cases actually equalling in weight the bodies of the patients themselves,—repeatedly performed during a condition of absolute unconsciousness: and when the use of any other known method for the purpose of inducing insensibility would be but the substitution for physical endurance of almost certain death. We hear from the same quarter of the successful treatment, by similar means, of paralysis, of epilepsy, and of mania, as events of constant recurrence. And these truths are being openly taught by eminent professors, and under the sanction of the Council of Education of India, in the great medical school of Calcutta, to crowds of students, gathered from all climes and quarters of the gorgeous East. Yet a little while, and every district of that ancient cradle of art and civilization, to which both are now returning with more benignant promise, and in the strength of a maturer life—from the stony crest of the Himalayahs to the forests of Ava—shall rejoice in these trophies of curative or of palliative

skill; trophies than which, with the exception of the still greater blessings of equal legislation and of the pure religion of charity and love, none more glorious have been reared within those often disputed confines, from the time at which the phalanxes of Alexander turned back from the waters of the Indus, to the day when the banks of that famous river were crowded by those victorious warriors of the stormy North, whose banners were emblazoned with the reminiscences of fields contested in a distant hemisphere against ensigns more dreaded than those of the Macedonian, and whose arms were nerved to conquest by the recollections of Arcot, of Plassy, and of Assaye. Now if such have been the effects of but fifteen years of experiment, what, it may be reasonably asked, may not be expected from an equal space of years yet to come? For the progress of every great discovery is, as all are aware, in anything but the constant ratio of its initial force. Long and arduous and painful are its first advances towards even partial recognition and acceptance; but this barrier once surmounted, there is no scale or series known to the mathematician which can measure the strength of its expansiveness, or the rapidity of its diffusion. Let us not however be misunderstood. In the conduct of this Institution we do not proceed, we have not hitherto proceeded, upon the supposition, that in mesmerism is contained an absolute and infallible specific for all shapes and conditions of disease. There may be temperaments over which it will be found to have but a limited influence. There may be, there probably are, some forms of malady, which it will prove incompetent materially to affect. How far, under what circumstances, with what limitations and restrictions it is best applicable, must be learned, as everything else in therapeutics has hitherto been learned, from the teaching of experiment alone. We do not even attempt to pronounce upon the nature of the cause to which this most remarkable state is owing. Nor do we deem it our province to investigate those higher and mysterious phenomena of magnetic somnambulism, which afford so extensive and so deeply interesting a field for the labours of the psychologist. We are not claiming for mesmerism any higher place than that of a most powerful and most valuable subsidiary to the known resources of the medical art; far less do we wish to see it separated from the judgment and superintendence of those whose professional studies may be presumed best to qualify them to determine upon the expediency of its employment. What however we do affirm—not a few among us upon the testimony of our own senses again and again repeated; many upon the strength of evidence which

appears wholly incontrovertible—is this, that for the most acute and depressing suffering the agency which we are advocating has often proved the only available palliative: that under the most trying conditions of terror and anguish to which human fortitude can be submitted, it has been found a refuge as safe as it is welcome and effective: and that directed against not a few of that most melancholy class of disorders, upon which the utmost skill of the physician is vainly exhausted, it has issued in an unquestionable and permanent cure. How multitudinous and how various are the latter sources of human misery, can be known to that Being alone, by whom, doubtless for wise although inscrutable purposes, they are permitted to exist. Such conditions of evil are not indeed of a character to attract either public or general notice. They do not meet us in the midst of our crowded streets and thoroughfares: they do not come forth to court attention beneath the open blaze of day. But if, amidst the splendour and the tumult, the flow of busy life, the rush of joyous and exuberant existence, which the external aspect of this vast metropolis at the present moment exhibits, the curtain which conceals its darker features from our observation were suddenly withdrawn; if, like the common father of mankind, in the gloomy but immortal description of Milton, we could behold but a portion of those cases of physical debility and protracted torture, over which medical science,—saying nothing against its undoubted triumphs—nothing against its manifold and improving appliances — nothing against the noble and disinterested spirit by which multitudes of its professors are actuated,—but over which this great science mourns hopelessly and in vain; who is there among us who would not stand aghast at the spectacle thus afforded?

> "Sight so deform, what heart of stone could long
> Tearless behold?"

Who would not welcome, who would not readily avail himself of any means, however vague, however novel, however empirical, which held out even the most distant promise of the relief of ills so terrible and extensive? He (Mr. Hollings) could distinctly and deliberately assert that he had seen such cases; their undeniable severity—their as undeniable relief. He had seen the most acute neuralgic anguish—not of days, but of months' continuance, and for which all that practised skill could suggest had been suggested to little purpose—allayed in a few minutes and almost as if by magic, by the simplest mesmeric treatment. He had seen disease, pronounced by competent medical authority to be organic, and by inference incurable, and for which the dissolution of the patient

seemed to offer the only probable means of release, succeeded, after the same mode of treatment had been for not very many days adopted, by a condition of active and vigorous health. But these are not insulated cases. The experience of the Chairman, and the experience of many who were present, could appeal to others quite as remarkable. They are paralleled, they are even far exceeded, by the records of this or of kindred institutions, and by hundreds of similar instances, established on the authority of the most unexceptionable witnesses both at home and abroad. Surely then we have at least a fair case for a candid and impartial hearing; a case which may challenge the most patient enquiry and justify the fullest and the most extensive experiment. Surely we are well warranted in addressing the most zealous and the most obstinate among our opponents in some such terms as these. Our statements are at least sufficiently numerous, our authority eminent, our objects of unspeakable importance to the general interest, if likely to prove attainable; still more so, if in any degree already attained. Examine for yourselves. The field of enquiry is easily accessible. The method of experiment from which we have drawn our conclusions is open to all. But do not in this day of enlightenment run counter to all those principles of inductive research upon which every science, and most especially the science of therapeutics, is based, by falling back upon assumed theories, while we appeal to absolute facts. Investigate strictly, sternly, severely, with every bias towards suspicion and distrust, and, if it must be so, with an utter disregard to the forms of that conventional courtesy which should at all times distinguish the controversies of liberal and enlightened men; but at least do not prejudge. Denounce—but first enquire. Strike if you will—but hear.—At the moment in which we are commemorating at least the partial triumph—at least the greatly improved prospects of a remedial means which we firmly and most sincerely believe to be second in value and efficacy to none adopted from the earliest periods of history by the professors of the healing art—it would ill become us to forget to whose instrumentality the progress of this most beneficial agency in the public estimation is principally owing. It cannot be denied, that for the present aspect of mesmerism both in this country and in the East, we are mainly indebted to the singular talents, to the persevering, the uninterrupted, and the benevolent efforts of one individual, who was foremost among us in asserting its claims to support, and who for many years continued almost single-handed to demonstrate its benefits, with a constancy, displayed amidst multiplied difficulties and

discouragements, which may well be compared with most of the best known and the noblest instances of devotion to truth and principle under the most trying forms of personal sacrifice. On the many claims possessed by Dr. Elliotson to the general gratitude, it was not necessary in that gentleman's presence to enlarge. Much moreover of what might be said in relation to his disinterested labours in the cause of humanity would probably be embodied in a resolution, which it was intended to submit to the meeting at a future stage of its proceedings. Thus much however he (Mr. Hollings) might say, that in any mark of esteem and respect which either upon that or upon future occasions may be offered as an acknowledgment of his invaluable services, all who are acquainted with his personal character, or who have in any degree learned justly to appreciate the uniform tenor of his professional career, must consider it equally a pleasure and a privilege to concur. And this, not only from feelings of individual respect, but upon general considerations of the highest moment. Heroism and devotion of one description alone have hitherto almost exclusively engrossed the praises and the honours of mankind. On all sides we saw monuments reared to commemorate the triumphs of physical powers, lasting oblations to that martial daring, that contempt of personal peril or of imminent death, for which nations have as yet principally reserved their titles, their statues, and their distinctions, their acclamations, and their wreaths. At the same time, it has too frequently been forgotten that there is a courage yet more honourable, far rarer, and with much more difficulty sustainable than this. It is that moral heroism, which neither scorn, nor obloquy, nor diminishing estimation, nor waning repute, nor the chilled affection of former friends and associates, nor, yet more formidable than all of these, "the world's dread laugh," can turn back from that which promises to issue in the lessened suffering or the enlarged happiness of mankind; even though the attainment of such an object may appear but as a dim possibility in the far distant future; even though the perfect development of its consequences and the full appreciation of its importance seem only likely to occur when the hands which have laboured the most zealously for its furtherance shall long have been mingled with the dust. But this heroism, too, shall one day have its trophies: and, side by side with the great masters and swayers of the sword, the armed protectors or oppressors of their respective ages, shall be seen the names of those whose labours in more peaceful fields have had for their ends the mental or the moral elevation of their fellows, the alleviation

of human misery, the diffusion among unborn generations of better, less emperilled, or more tolerable conditions of life. In that day, and among the long list of names thus honoured, which the history of our own land will supply, far from the least distinguished, will be that of the eminent physiologist, the accomplished physician, and the generous philanthropist, who was the first to make known, and the most strenuous to establish among his countrymen, the healing tendencies of a state, imitative of nature's best restorative, and no less potent than this for the renewal of impaired vigour, or the alleviation of the racking sense of pain; a state by which, as proved by the grateful experience of multitudes, functional disorders of the worst and most obstinate character have been repeatedly arrested; the progress of those maladies, through which the mind of man sinks slowly but surely amidst the ruins of his shattered intellect, suspended; and those seasons of agonizing endurance, which the judgment of the surgeon is compelled to appoint as the only means of preventing yet severer evils, passed either as an utter pause in consciousness, or, at worst, as but a troubled and a feverish dream.

The Hon. Capt. SCARLETT, in seconding the resolution, said, that after the speech they had just heard it was quite needless for him to detain them by any further remarks. He would, however, call their attention to one point, and that was the great economy practised in that institution, and the great zeal and ability, as well as gratuitous attention, of the medical officers. He had great pleasure in seconding the adoption of the report.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. JANSON (of Exeter) moved that the Archbishop of Dublin and Earl Stanhope be requested to become vice-presidents of the Institution. The hon. speaker briefly alluded to the immense progress that the science of mesmerism had made in Exeter, and said he appeared on the present occasion as representative of that city.*

* Dr. Elliotson made the request in virtue of this resolution, and the following are the answers of the two noblemen :—

"Merton Lodge, Slough,
"30th May, 1851.

"My dear Sir,

"I shall be happy to accept the office of Vice-President of the Mesmeric Infirmary.

"The practice is so dangerous in bad or careless hands that it is most important it should be patronized and efficiently superintended by the trustworthy.

"To hold back from it because there are dangers attending it, is to *leave* it in the worst hands.

"I trust the Institution will, eventually, accomplish much more than the immediate relief of the patients who apply to it.

"There are two other most important results which I think it may be the means of bringing about: (1) the *training* of some well-qualified persons as *pro-*

Mr. Parker (of Exeter), said he had much satisfaction and pleasure in seconding the resolution which Mr. Janson had proposed. Being entirely a stranger to the audience, with two exceptions only, he had to claim their indulgence, as he should feel quite inadequate to the task of addressing them had he not to advocate the cause of truth. He came there to-day not to boast of what he had done in the cause of mesmerism; but he came to render an account of his labours as an act of homage to Dr. Elliotson, their leader and general, "whose deeds of heroism have not been celebrated at the cannon-mouth nor bathed in the tears of the widow." Although he held no public appointment, he had enjoyed the rare privilege of being assisted by Mr. Janson,—that noble specimen of the human race on his left hand. When he told them that he had performed upwards of twenty of the most painful operations on the eye whilst the patients were under his (Mr. Janson's) mesmeric influence, they need only look at him to recognize his very large organ of Benevolence. There is another friend to mesmerism whose presence here to-day he (Mr. Parker) could have wished, and as Mr. Janson fancies there is a kind of free-masonry between mesmerisers, he (Mr. Parker) had the privilege of calling Mr. Luxmoore a brother mason as well as a brother mesmeriser, whose noble deeds he need only mention. He (Mr. Luxmoore) has mesmerised a patient under his (Mr. Parker's) care for *five years and a half, from three, six, nine, and even thirteen hours a day*, with few intermissions. The sufferings of this patient had been so severe that he had been obliged to bleed her eight hundred times in the course of nineteen years as the only palliative remedy, and she is now quite restored to health by mesmerism. Whatever objections the fastidious may find in public exhibitions of mesmerism, he begged to offer them some compensation in the following results. Having had mesmeric *séances* at his own house for several years past, (twice, three times, and often four times a week,) at which

fessional mesmerisers; of which there is a great want: (2) the discovering of some valuable *medical clairvoyants.*

"Believe me, dear Sir, yours very truly,
"R. Dublin."

"Chevening,
"May 28th, 1851.

"Dear Dr. Elliotson,

"I beg to assure you that I gladly and gratefully accept the distinguished honour which is proposed to me of becoming a Vice-President of the Mesmeric Infirmary, and that no person can feel more interested than myself in the prosperity of that most admirable Institution, or can be more deeply impressed with the conviction of its inestimable importance.

"Very faithfully yours,
"Stanhope."

from 30 to 70 persons had been gratuitously admitted, he and his mesmerisers had produced some of the phenomena of mesmerism on nearly 1,200 persons out of a population of 35,000 inhabitants. In conducting these investigations he had had two objects in view; the first, to examine the variety of phenomena; the second, to provide patients for operations. During the last eight months he had extracted upwards of *thirty teeth* whilst the patients were in the mesmeric sleep and unconscious of pain. From *ten* to *seventy* persons had been present at almost every operation. Multitudes had had their toothache cured, without extraction, and various other pains removed at his *séances*. Irregularities of the female system had been relieved in *hundreds* of cases. He would trespass on the audience to mention one case in particular, illustrating the glorious triumph of mesmerism, that of a young gentleman, 16 years of age, whose father is at present and has been for four years in an asylum; his grandmother died deranged. This young gentleman was at school, in May, 1850, at a country town, 10 miles from Exeter, and being, very zealous to win a prize, studied so hard as to become deranged. The medical attendant of the father considered the son's case, after fourteen days' treatment, hopeless. Whilst in this state the patient had torn every nail off his hands from their roots; and being in this miserable and hopeless state, the mother flew as the last resource to mesmerism. Her only child had passed the whole of the fourteenth night in violent delirium. As soon as he (Mr. Parker) and his mesmeriser reached the country town, his mesmeriser soon induced mesmeric sleep, and they had the opportunity of bringing him (the patient) the whole way to Exeter in a quiet state, in an omnibus; and after eleven days' perseverance, they had the gratification of restoring his intellect, and in the course of a few weeks he was quite restored to health and has remained well ever since. In answer to an observation from Mr. Hollings he begged to offer the result of his experience. He had found a relay of mesmerisers succeed in relieving the most desperate and forlorn cases, and the last moments of many of his patients had been soothed by mesmerism: *in fact, the last words* that some of his patients had uttered, had been to thank Mr. Parker for having administered the comfort of mesmerism in their dying moments. He could not expect the audience to sympathize with him for the base calumny he had received. He dared not trust himself to describe it. The conduct of persons who would wish to be thought to be guided by the genial spirit of Christianity had even surpassed the iniquitous bigotry of the Inquisition, and more resembled the remorseless cannibal. What had been

said there to-day he wished to be recorded by his children's children, as the truth of mesmerism must prevail. It might meet with obstacles; it could never be defeated. It put all other doctrines into the shade. It was, in fact, that great electric light that would conduct the human race to the intellectual oasis before them. Mr. Wakley, in his *Lancet*, once compared him to a Phœnix: but he (Mr. Parker) knew that he had not been burnt and revived from his ashes, but had lived twenty years in his house without its having yet been on fire.

The motion was then carried.

It was then moved by Mr. Robertson, and seconded by Mr. Briggs, that ladies be added to the committee during the ensuing year.

This was also unanimously agreed to.

Dr. Elliotson was then re-elected Treasurer.

Dr. Symes next proposed that the following address be presented to Dr. Elliotson:—

"That the sincere congratulations of this meeting are due and are hereby tendered to John Elliotson, M.D., F.R.S., upon the satisfactory advancement of this institution and of a form of medical treatment, the establishment of which, in Great Britain, is due principally to his disinterested, persevering, and most efficient advocacy. Many years have now elapsed since the reality of the phenomena of mesmerism and its applicability to the treatment of some of the most formidable and obstinate diseases, acute and chronic, were demonstrated by experiments conducted by him, and published under the high sanction of his authority as a public professor of medicine and a distinguished teacher of physiology and of therapeutics. How these great truths were received by the medical profession at large, is only too generally known. The pertinacious opposition of an unenquiring scepticism to facts as satisfactorily established and as easily demonstrable as any within the range of experiment and research; and the extent to which base detraction, open invective, and secret obloquy have been systematically substituted for argument and enquiry, are no less matters of general notoriety. The period of prejudice, of incredulity, and intemperate reproach in regard to mesmerism as a curative agent, is at length, however, hastening to its close. Hundreds of cases successfully treated have established incontestably the efficacy of this simple but powerful means for the alleviation and cure of disease. The experiments of enquiring minds here and abroad have succeeded in evolving from mesmeric phenomena truths both physical and physiological, hitherto unsuspected, but which further investigations promise speedily to connect by the bond of

common relations with a new and universal law. In this Institution, and in the Mesmeric Infirmary at Bristol and Exeter, and in the Mesmeric Hospital at Calcutta, to the last of which the direct countenance and support of Government have been extended, the employment of mesmerism has been attended with advantages which the most sanguine of its advocates could hardly have dared to anticipate. In all these Institutions the severest and most inveterate maladies have been arrested and cured, the dumb have been made to speak, the deaf to hear, the blind to see, and the lame to walk; the sick, the insane, the wretched and despairing have been restored to comfort and health; and while not a few operations have been conducted to a successful termination under its soothing influence in this country, in the Calcutta hospital more particularly hundreds have been subjected in a state of perfect unconsciousness and tranquillity to capital operatations of the gravest kind, in not one of which has the employment of *this* anæsthetic been attended with other than beneficial results; results only less marvellous than the pertinacity with which they have been excluded from all the medical journals which ought to have been the first to welcome and promulgate them. With our congratulations to Dr. Elliotson we will not mingle one word of regret for the labours he has expended, the sacrifices he has made, the persecution he has endured in the warfare against prejudice, indifference and injustice; these are the gains and form the common lot of those who are in advance of the age in which they live; and we feel assured that the magnificent results to which we have referred, effected through the agency of the cause for which he has suffered, and its progress and triumph, must to his large and cultivated mind be more than a compensation for all he has undergone."

Dr. Ashburner, in seconding the proposition, said, that it gave him great pleasure to second the motion. The address which had just been read he considered a graceful and well-merited compliment to the extraordinary man they all agreed to regard as the indomitable champion of the holy truth of mesmerism. They had heard from Mr. Parker that Dr. Elliotson was their leader and their general. He has well fought the battle in which he has been engaged; and, besieged by base enemies, he has thrown missiles into their camps more striking than injurious shells. He has projected the astonishing cure of a case of cancer, which will do more damage to their hostile forces of pride, slander and malice, than a thousand shrapnells. Dr. Elliotson was their general. Let them rather give him a higher function, that of teacher; the highest in which a human being can be engaged; and

they could not pay him a better homage than to bear witness to his zeal and energy in the investigation of a science on which his genius and acumen have been the means of shedding so much light. He (Dr. Ashburner) was quite unprepared to address the meeting, but could not allow the occasion to pass without adding his little tribute of cordial respect for the man whom he was sure they would unanimously address in the terms so well conceived in the paper Dr. Symes had presented to them.

Mr. Alex. J. Ellis (of Bristol) in supporting the motion, remarked upon the silence of preceding speakers with respect to one eminent quality in Dr. Elliotson, which was comparatively rare, but was of the utmost importance to investigators, and especially to mesmeric investigators. To these Dr. Elliotson was in this respect not merely a teacher, but a model; he did not merely shew them the path, but he pursued it himself. It happened curiously enough that it was this very quality for which he received the least credit from the world in general; or rather, he was given credit for a precisely opposite quality, and it was therefore due to him that the truth should be publicly spoken. Dr. Elliotson is a remarkably *slow believer*. So far from being the mere theorist which his detractors assume him to be, he is a patient investigator, who will not allow himself to be led away by appearances, and who never asserts a fact on his own authority till he has thoroughly and carefully established it for himself. He (Mr. Ellis) could speak from long personal acquaintance, and from a knowledge of his writings. It was of the utmost importance that this course should be pursued by mesmerisers generally. A theory may be combatted by arguments: a fact established on the evidence of a careful experimenter is incontrovertible. The science of mesmerism is still in the stage of collecting facts: the theory will follow in time. But we must know the *what*, before we can pretend to tell the *how*. It is a blessing which mesmerisers enjoy above all other investigators, that while they are, scientifically speaking, merely discovering facts and processes in nature,—merely instituting experiments for their own private satisfaction, they are practically doing an immense amount of good to their fellow men, and gratifying the most disinterested benevolence at every stage of their enquiry. Mesmerism is the worthy pursuit of the acutest philosopher and the warmest philanthropist.

The address was unanimously agreed to, and presented to Dr. Elliotson amidst marks of the greatest approbation.

Dr. Elliotson returned thanks; and, a vote of thanks having been given to the chairman, the meeting separated.

FINIS.



THE EARL OF DUCIE, PRESIDENT, 1852.

LIST OF OFFICERS.

PRESIDENT.

The RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DUCIE.

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

The MOST REV. THE ARCHBISHOP OF DUBLIN.
Right Hon. the EARL OF CARLISLE.
The EARL OF DUNRAVEN.
Right Hon. the EARL STANHOPE.
The BARON DE GOLDSMID, F.R.S.
J. H. LANGSTON, M.P.
R. MONCKTON MILNES, M.P.
REV. G. SANDBY, jun.
Rev. CHAUNCEY HARE TOWNSHEND.

TREASURER.

DR. ELLIOTSON.

COMMITTEE.

MR. AMOR,
DR. ASHBURNER,
MR. J. BRIGGS,
MAJOR BUCKLEY,
MR. T. CHANDLER, } Surgeons,
MR. CHANDLER, }
MR. J. FRERE,
MR. J. C. ROBERTSON,
CAPT. the HON. W. F. SCARLETT,
DR. E. S. SYMES,
MR. W. TOPHAM,
MR. W. UNDERWOOD,
MR. C. UNDERWOOD.

Donations and Subscriptions—*(paid)*.

	Dons. £	s.	d.	Ann. Subs. £	s.	d
A——, Mrs., per Thomas Capern				1	1	0
Adams, Mr., Surgeon, Lymington	1	1	0			
Adlard, Mr. H., jun., Hatton Garden				1	1	0
Aglionby, Miss, Wigton Hall, Wigton, Cumberland				1	0	0
Akroyd, Mr. Edward, Bankfield, Halifax	5	0	0			
Allison, Mr., Half-moon Street, Piccadilly				1	1	0
Amor, Mr., New Bond Street				1	1	0
Anonymous, Hampshire	5	0	0			
Ashburner, Dr.	10	0	0	1	1	0
Bagnold, Colonel, 28, Hamilton Ter., St. John's Wood	5	0	0	1	0	0
Brigstock, Mrs., 11, Hyde Park Square				1	1	0
Bailey, Mr. S., Burn Greave, Sheffield	5	0	0			
Baillière, Mr.				1	1	0
Barnes, Mr. James, 6, Westphalia Place, West Square				1	1	0
Barth, Mr. George H., 4, Mornington Crescent				2	2	0
Barton, Mr., Gloster Cottage, Boundary Road, St. John's Wood				1	1	0
Batson, Mr. H., 23, Albert Road, Gloster Gate, Regent's Park				5	0	0
Baume, Mr. P. P., Friern Lodge, Barnet, Middlesex	4	10	0			
Bentinck, the Lady Mary				10	0	0
Bishop, Mr., Hastings				1	1	0
Blyth, Mr. P. P., Sion House, Lower Clapton				5	5	0
Briggs, Mr., Nottingham Place				5	5	0
Briggs, Mr. W., York	10	0	0			
Brine, Mr., South Row, New Road	2	2	0			
Brine, Mrs. ditto	2	2	0			
Brine, Mr.				1	1	0
Brine, Miss	5	0	0	1	1	0
Brine, Miss E.	5	0	0	1	1	0
Brown, Mr. Berry, Hamilton House, St. John's Wood	5	0	0			
Browne, Mr. J., Bridgewater				1	1	0
Browne, Mr. W. ditto				1	1	0
Brunning, Miss, 10, Stafford Street, Lisson Grove				1	1	0

	Dons. £	s.	d.	Ann. Subs. £	s.	d.
Buckland, Mr., 25, Euston Square, London				1	1	0
Buckley, Major, 27A, Bond Street				5	5	0
——————— a Friend of	1	0	0			
——————— Second Friend of	1	1	0			
Bull, Mr. J., Bridgewater	1	1	0			
Butler, Mr. Edward	1	0	0			
Buxton, Dr., Brownlow Street	5	0	0			
Carlisle, the Right Hon. the Earl of, Grosvenor Place				2	2	0
Cautley, Rev. Joshua, Thorney, Peterborough				1	1	0
Chambers, Mr., Ratcliffe Highway				1	1	0
Chandler, Mr., Surgeon, Rotherhithe				1	1	0
Chandler, Mr., Surgeon, 53, Eastbourne Ter., Hyde Park				1	1	0
Clark, Mr., Surgeon, 3, York Place, Kingsland	1	1	0			
Clarkson, Miss R.	5	0	0			
Collins, Miss E., Brigg				1	1	0
Cook, Rev. Joseph, Purley Hall, Oxfordshire	5	0	0			
Creyke, Mr. Ralph, Rowcliffe Hall, Selby, Yorkshire	5	0	0			
Crewse, Mr. A. F. B., 8, Marlborough Hill, St. John's W.				1	1	0
Croft, Col., Shellington Hall, Yorkshire	5	0	0			
Crompton, Mr. Joshua, Sion Hill, Thirsk	10	0	0			
Cryer, Mr., Brentford				1	0	0
Davey, Mr. W.	1	0	0			
Davidson, Captain, 40, Charlotte Street, Portland Place	1	1	0			
Davis, Mr. R., 9, Great St. Helens	12	12	0			
Deverel, Mr., Purbrook Park, Portsmouth				2	0	0
Deyman, Mr. C. O., Gray's Inn				1	1	0
Dobson, Mr., 32, Piccadilly				1	1	0
Dobson, Mrs. ditto				1	1	0
Dodsworth, Sir C., Bart.	5	0	0			
Dublin, the Archbishop of	10	0	0			
Ducie, Earl of	100	0	0			
Dunraven, Earl of	10	0	0	2	0	0
Edwards, Rev. John, Cheltenham				1	1	0
Ekins, Rev. Jeffery, Braintree, Essex				1	1	0
Elliotson, Dr., F.R.S.	50	0	0			
Ellis, Mr. J. A., Apsley Place, Bristol	5	0	0	1	1	0
Enfield, Mr., Nottingham				1	1	0
Ewart, Mr., M.P., Cambridge Square	5	0	0			
Farley and Bryce, Messrs., 16, Mincing Lane	4	4	0			
Fletcher, Major, Ulcombe Place, Maidstone				1	1	0
Forbes, Sir Charles, Bart.	21	0	0			
Ford, Mrs., 123, Park Street, Grosvenor Square				1	1	0
Frere, Mr., Stamford Brook, Chiswick	10	0	0	3	3	0
Frend, Mrs.	0	10	0			
Frend, Mr. H. T.	1	0	0			
Garnier, the Lady Harriet	21	0	0			
Goff, Mr. R., 21, Kensington Gore	5	0	0			
Goldsmid, Baron de, F.R.S.	100	0	0			
Gordon, Mr. J. A., Naish, Bristol	50	0	0			
Gosset, Mrs., 3, Westbourne Place, Hyde Park				1	1	0
Hamilton, Mr. W. H.	5	0	0			
Hands, Mr. J., Surgeon, Duke Street, Grosvenor Square	5	5	0			
Hare, Lieut., Bath	1	0	0			
Hayman, Mr. S., Sidmouth	1	1	0			
Heath, Mr., 123, Edgware Road				1	1	0
Hennen, Mrs., Denmark Hill				1	1	0
Herring, Mr., St. Faith's Lane, Norwich				1	1	0
Hewes, Mr. J. T., East Lodge, East Greenwich				1	1	0
Hicks, Captain, Bath				1	1	0
Hoare, Mr., Deptford				1	1	0

	Dons. £	s.	d.	Ann. Subs. £	s.	d.
Hodgson, Captain Ellis	1	0	0			
Holland, Mr. James, 6, Laurie Terrace, New Cross				1	1	0
Hollings, Mr., Leicester				1	1	0
Hussey, Mr. Edward, Scotney Castle, Lamberhurst	5	0	0			
James, Captain, Littlebourne Rectory, Kent	5	5	0	2	2	0
James, Captain John, ditto	5	0	0	1	1	0
Janson, Mr. H. U., Pennsylvania Park, Exeter	20	0	0	5	0	0
Jeaffreson, Mr., 14, Green Street, Grosvenor Square				1	1	0
Jekyl, Captain, Bramly House, Guildford				1	1	0
Johnston, Mr. F. G., Surgeon, Conduit Street	5	0	0			
Kingdom, Mr., Reform Club	10	0	0			
Kiste, Mr., 37, Maddox Street	6	0	0			
Knatchbull, the Rev. Dr., Smeethe Rectory, Kent	2	0	0			
Lady, a	1	0	0			
Lang, Mr. W., Glasgow	1	1	0			
Langston, Mr., M.P.	100	0	0			
Lloyd, Mr. W. W., 77, Snow Hill				1	1	0
Lloyd, Mr., Rockville, Roscommon, Ireland				5	5	0
Luxmoore, Mr. J. C., Alphington, Devon				5	0	0
Majendie, Mr., F.R.S., Hedingham Castle, Essex	5	0	0	1	1	0
Marshall, Mr. James G., Munk Coniston, Ambleside	50	0	0			
Martineau, Mr. R., Edgbarton				1	1	0
Matthews, Miss, Wigton Hall, Cumberland				1	1	0
Miller, Mr. W., 4, Baker St., London St., Brighton				1	1	0
Milnes, Mr. Monckton, M.P., 26, Pall Mall				1	1	0
Mitchell, Mr., 24, Wardour Street				1	1	0
Mitchell, Mr. George, Thornhill Square, Islington				1	1	0
Moffatt, Mr., M.P., Eaton Square	5	0	0			
Molesworth, the Dowager Lady, Lowndes Street	5	0	0	1	1	0
Morgan, Mrs. Augustus de	1	0	0			
Mowatt, Mr.	1	1	0			
Newnham, Mr., Surgeon, Farnham				1	1	0
Nicoll, Mrs., Hendon				1	1	0
Nicholls, Mr. H. F., Bridgewater				1	1	0
Noyes, Sarah Ann, (a servant cured by Mesmerism after all other means had failed)				1	1	0
Ormerod, Miss, 7, Oriental Place, Brighton	1	0	0	1	1	0
Ormerod, Mr. E.	0	10	0			
Paine, Mr., Farnham				1	1	0
Parker, Mr., Mercer Street, Long Acre	1	1	0			
Partridge, Dr., York Place, Portman Square				1	1	0
Patten, Mr. W., 50, Berners Street				1	1	0
Pettit, Mr., 16, Allsop Terrace, New Road	10	10	0			
Rhynheart, Mr. J., 21, Great Queen Street, Holborn				1	1	0
Robertson, Rev. T., Blandford Square	5	5	0			
Robertson, Mr., Editor of *Mechanics' Magazine*				2	2	0
Robinson, Mr. A., 5, Woburn Square				1	1	0
Ruck, Mr. J., Clapham				1	1	0
Salmon, Mr. William, Red Lion Street, Holborn				1	1	0
Sandby, Rev. G., jun., Flixton, Suffolk	5	0	0	1	1	0
Scarlett, the Hon. Captain, Scotch Fusileer Guards	5	5	0	1	1	0
Selfe, Mr. S., Bridgewater				1	1	0
Shackleton, Mr. E.				1	1	0
Shaw, Mr. T. A., Lincoln's Inn Fields				12	0	0
Shepherd, Miss, North Hedden Cottage, Hungerford	1	0	0			
Shepherd, Mr. G., Claremont Place, Dover				1	1	0
Simpson, Dr., York	25	0	0			
Sims, Mr. C., Hubbard's Hall, Harlow, Essex	5	0	0			
Sims, Rev. H. B., Great Parndon Rectory, Essex	10	10	0			

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Snee, Mr., Colebrook Row, Islington				1	1	0
Snewing, Mr., Kenilworth				1	1	0
Snewing, Mr. C., Alpha Pl., Alpha Rd., Regent's Park	1	0	0			
Snewing, Mrs. C., ditto ditto	5	5	0			
Snewing, Mr. W., Wells Street, Oxford Street				1	1	0
Spedding, Miss, Mirehouse, Cumberland				1	1	0
Spiller, Mr. J., Bridgewater	5	0	0			
St. Grignon, Rev. William, Brighton				1	1	0
Stapleton, Capt. W. P., Salcombe Cottage, Sidmouth				1	1	0
Steele, Mr. C. W., Surgeon, Lewisham	10	0	0			
Stringer, Mrs., Goodhurst, Kent				1	0	0
Sullivan, Mr. J.				1	1	0
Symes, Dr., Grosvenor Street	2	0	0			
Symes, Mrs	1	1	0			
	5	5	0			
Tanner, Mrs., Blacklands, Calne, Wilts				1	1	0
Taylor, Mr. Thomas, 12, Duke Street, Borough	5	5	0			
Taylor, Mr., Dockeray Hall, Cumberland				2	0	0
Thompson, Mr. H. S., Fairfield House, near York				1	1	0
Thompson, Mrs. ditto				1	1	0
Thompson, Mr. Adam, 25, New Bond Street	21	0	0			
Tillerton, Mr., Kingston				2	2	0
Topham, Mr. W., Temple				1	1	0
Townshend, Rev. C. Hare, Norfolk Street, Park Lane				1	1	0
Trevelyan, Sir Walter	5	0	0			
Trevelyan, Mr. A., Wallington, Morpeth	10	0	0			
Truelove, Mr., 22, John Street, Fitzroy Square				2	2	0
Tubbs, Mr. W. J., Surgeon, Upwell Isle, Cambridgeshire	4	0	0			
	1	0	0			
Udall, Mr., Temple				1	0	0
Underwood, Mr. W., Vere Street				25	0	0
Underwood, Mr. C., 13, Holles Street				2	2	0
Upjohn, Mr., Surgeon, 4, Westbourne Villas, Harrow Rd.	1	1	0			
Von der Heyde, Mrs., Sydenham				2	2	0
Vernon, Mrs., Warwickshire				2	2	0
Vieusseux, Mr., 6, Gloster Place, Regent's Park	1	10	0			
				1	1	0
Wallace, Miss, 4, Russell Place, Fitzroy Square				1	0	0
Wallis, Mr., 64, Long Acre				1	1	0
Walton, Mr., 11, Euston Place				1	1	0
Welsh, Mr. Aubrey, Harrington Square, Hampstead Rd.				1	1	0
West, Mrs.				1	1	0
White, General, Bath	1	0	0			
Whitfeld, Mr., Surgeon, Ashford				1	1	0
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Frances, Mrs., 9, Norfolk Crescent, Hyde Park				1	1	0
Hands, Mr. D., Surgeon, Dorset Square	5	0	0			
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REPORT

OF THE

FIRST PUBLIC MEETING;

THE RT. HON. EARL DUCIE, PRESIDENT,

IN THE CHAIR.

BAILLIERE, REGENT-STREET, LONDON.
EVANS AND ABBOTT, CLARE-STREET, BRISTOL.

1849.

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conversion he thought it might not be out of place if he briefly narrated the circumstances under which it took place. He had been for years a very great sufferer from rheumatic gout, and one day a clergyman, a friend of his, came to him with a smile on his face and said to him, "You can be cured." He (Lord Ducie) replied that he was very glad of it, and his friend, who had been a sufferer from illness, then said, 'I was induced to

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(Lord Ducie)
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ell him what
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, and tell me
what is growing there." She at once replied, "There is nothing growing there; it is a field of wheat, but it has been cut and carried." This was correct; but knowing that in a part of the field grain had been sown at a different period, he asked her if she was sure that the whole of it had been cut. She replied that